

### **Intent of Call**

Today's call will be divided into two parts: Civil Unrest & COVID-19.

For those who have not participated previously, the intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions that Virginia is taking to mitigate, respond to, and now recover from COVID-19 in Virginia, and now the civil unrest that is happening across the nation.

The flow of our agenda will include first an update on civil unrest in the Commonwealth, to include a briefing by the Commonwealth's fusion center; followed by a COVID-19 situation update (policy and procedure standpoint), a report on contact tracing from an epidemiologist with the Commonwealth, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA representative in Virginia. Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line where you will have an opportunity to ask questions the; all speakers will stay on the line. As always, while we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we always provide responses to you individually whether that be through emails, the Private Sector Portal, updates on our website, or this weekly meeting call.

The purpose of these calls is not meant for solicitation or procurement offers; those need to be directed to the Private Sector email at: [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

Nor is this call is for media; if you are media, please hang up and contact the JIC at [COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov)

This call is intended to get actionable information from state government into hands of businesses and industries in Virginia both for situational awareness and decision-making purposes, and it becomes even more important now that we have moved into Phase One of re-opening, as businesses look to resume their operations & also take into account health and safety of your employees, and customers.

### **VDEM Civil Unrest Situational Update**

On Sunday May 31, the Governor issued [Executive Order No. 64: Declaration of a state of Emergency Due to Civil Unrest & Institution of a curfew in the city of Richmond, and the city of Virginia Beach](#). E.O. No. 64 allows the authorization of additional assistance to localities in response to escalating violence across the Commonwealth.

The Governor also granted a request from the Mayor of Richmond, and the Mayor of Virginia Beach, to extend a curfew to remain in place until June 29, unless amended or rescinded.

Curfews do not apply to everyone. For instance, if you are a person traveling to/from home, work, or places of worship; additionally, individuals who are hospital personnel, members of the press, state & city employees/volunteers, military personnel (to include, but not limited to, the National Guard), private emergency medical transport workers, those traveling to & from public meetings pertaining to city council and/or school board, and those seeking emergency services or other emergency workers, are all EXEMPT for the aforementioned purposes.

Currently in Virginia there are four localities under curfew:

- Richmond
- Virginia Beach
- Fredericksburg (*Local curfew implementation v. Commonwealth curfew*)
- Lynchburg (*Local curfew implementation v. Commonwealth curfew*)

As of June, 1 there are 22 states (including the District of Columbia) that have activated and/or plan to activate the National Guard; in addition, at least 28 states have imposed curfews in at least one/or more cities since June 1, to quell civil unrest.

VDEM EOC remains at activation Orange aka Partial Activation, and operating 24/7 shifts. Command & General Staff, along with several ESFs that are staffing overnight as of May, 31 and will continue to do so throughout this week, and potentially next week, pending on the climate.

All Regions in the Commonwealth are experiencing activity due to civil unrest; but, there is increasing activity in the following areas:

- Hampton Roads
- Richmond
- NOVA
- Roanoke
- Lynchburg

### **Virginia Fusion Center**

There are four main areas of concerns with activities and riots, from an Intelligence standpoint, in the Commonwealth:

- Richmond
- Eastern Shore

- NOVA
- Western VA

The Richmond & Eastern Shore area are currently the main areas of concern due to these localities being in Urban Areas, which allows for easy movement of people and vehicles, which gives observation points (whether in a car or a building) to monitor First Responder activities.

Drone usage is being tracked, as it poses a threat for surveillance, as well as nefarious attacks/being used as a weapon.

Over the past five days the trend has been that large groups of protesters & rioters continue to destroy property, vandalize businesses, historical monuments & museums, impact Police & First Responders, loot, assault, ignore curfews, block roads, arson and many other violations of the Commonwealth's laws.

Some specific examples of incidents seen in Virginia include:

- Throwing of bricks, rocks, and full bottles of liquids at Police & Firefighters
- Attacking police with blunt objects
- Smashing-in windows of Businesses and Government Buildings in order to gain access or loot property
- Setting fires to dumpsters, trash-cans, vehicles, and public transportation in order to block intersections, roads, and to divert resources from reaching these areas
- Carrying of supplies to fight the affects of chemical agents deployed by law enforcement
- Pre-deployment of resources by rioters to conduct illegal activity
- Threats to go outside city into residential areas

Other examples seen outside of Virginia, throughout the United States:

- Individuals ramming Police with vehicles
- Use of firearms to shoot at Police officers
- Attacking Police Departments & First Responder vehicles
- Stealing weapons & supplies
- The use of edged weapons or knives to stab police officers during riots
- Use of incendiary devices, such as Fireworks, and throwing of Molotov Cocktails
- Monitoring of Law Enforcement Radio by Rioters

Back to Virginia, specifically: Riots & Protests are assessed to likely continue for another one-two weeks, especially in the Eastern, Central and Northern portions of the Commonwealth. The

individuals participating in these activities are expected to continue criminal behavior and looking for opportunities to destroy property, loot and/or attack law enforcement. Therefore, we highly suggest anyone affiliated with law enforcement or first responders be prepared for such activities.

### **VDEM Civil Unrest PS Situational Update**

From a PS standpoint, we know there are businesses being impacted by looting & rioting, as well as curfews. Many Businesses are closing early or reducing hours to lessen impact. If you are making decisions about closing early, please email: [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) so that we can have situational awareness of stores across Virginia; this helps Regional and Local EMs to be aware of such information.

If you have suspicious activity ongoing at your businesses that you need to report please email the Fusion center at: [VFC@VFC.VSP.Virginia.Gov](mailto:VFC@VFC.VSP.Virginia.Gov)

### **VDEM COVID-19 Situational Update**

As of today, the **number of confirmed COVID19 cases in Virginia is 46,905**, current total of **hospitalizations as of today is 1,311**, the total **cumulative hospitalizations reported is 4,884**; there have been **1,428 fatalities**.

To recap on where we are with the Executive Orders (EO) and the Forward VA process: [EO-51 AMENDED: Extending Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) was amended on May, 26 to remain in effect until amended, or rescinded.

On May 15, Phase One began implementation on May 15<sup>th</sup> in most of Virginia where the public health criteria outlined by the Commonwealth is currently being met.

On Tuesday during the Governor press conference, he announced that given the current health metrics continuing in a downward trend, the Commonwealth will move into Phase II of the Forward Virginia Blueprint beginning on Friday, June 5th.

[EO-65 Phase Two Easing of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#), was issued, confirming the move to Phase 2 on Friday, June 5; however, this excludes Northern Virginia and the City of Richmond who remain in Phase I.

As for an update on the Blueprint for Forward Virginia, as a reminder, there are three phases.

Phase 2 restrictions will include:

- Stay-at-home is still safer especially for vulnerable populations
- No social gatherings of 50 people or more
- Continue social distancing
- Continued teleworking
- Face coverings required in indoor public places
- Restaurants will be able to expand to 50% of capacity, while still maintaining social distancing and sanitation requirements
- Gyms and other fitness facilities can now hold indoor exercise at 30% of capacity
- Pools will be able to open for exercise and instructional use with limited capacity
- Entertainment venues, such as museums, zoos and botanical gardens will be able to open with restrictions
- Recreational sports will be allowed with social distancing and no sharing of equipment
- Phase 2 will last 2-4 weeks or longer, pending metrics

As a reminder the Governor's phased approach is based on science and data and includes mitigation strategies to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus through enhanced safety practices. The plan allows localities to consider delaying implementation of Phase One guidelines based on local conditions.

Guidance for all Business Sectors can be found on the Commonwealth's COVID-19 webpage (link is also on the private sector page) and includes guidance for the following sectors:

- Restaurants and Beverage Services
- Farmers Markets
- Brick and Mortar Retail
- Personal Care and Grooming Services
- Fitness and Exercise Facilities
- Campgrounds and Summer Camp
- Religious Services

The length of each of the three phases is dependent upon Virginia's progression along the health metrics. The governor will provide more details about moving into Phase 2 during his press conference on Thursday.

As a reminder, the Governor Press Conference's are now held on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 2 pm EST.

### **Agency Reports**

#### **Virginia Department of Health:**

Nothing Significant to Report; will remain online for Q&A

#### **Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services:**

The market news office has reported National Beef & Pork Slaughter Capacity is improving, but it is still down due to plant closures, and reduced capacity at open plants; roughly 55 plants that have reported closings/re-openings across the country.

As of May, 28 last week Cattle & Hog Slaughter processing was down 11% compared to the same period in 2019. Cattle Slaughter in early May was down 37%; Pork slaughter was down 35%. Overall, things are improving as we move forward.

Livestock auction markets continue to be held throughout the state; as of May, 29 state feed and grain cattle prices remained steady ~ 2% higher. Headcounts were low, but that was partially due to wet conditions at the end of May, and is typical for this time of year.

Grain prices are steady ~ higher, for the most part; there was concern about the prices on the Chicago mercantile exchange grain market (which is sensitive to many factors, to include the recent civil unrest) would be negatively impacted but that was fortunately not the case.

FEMA will be issuing ~11k infrared thermometers to the Commonwealth to be used and distributed amongst CI. In March, several key livestock units signaled that this was a need (especially poultry).

#### **VA Fusion Center**

Saturday June, 6 is the advertised global 5G protest day. Arson and threats to 5G infrastructure continue throughout the country, though there have been no incidents in Virginia, yet, and there are no anticipated threats to the communications infrastructure within the Commonwealth at this time. Though, given Saturday is a global event, it increases the potential for activity as the conspiracy theorists rally to protest 5G & the perceived threat/link to the global CV-19 outbreak. Domestic extremists and other actors will be willfully looking to cause destruction to 5G infrastructure Saturday.

Despite the civil unrest taking the recent headlines, the cyber threat remains very real and active in terms of phishing, malware, etc. The trend has pivoted to try and get information and/or steal payments that been sent out to Americans by the Federal Government. During the period of March- May of this year, there was a significant uptick in "password spraying attacks"

(brute force attack that attempts to match user names with weak passwords), targeting health care settings and educational institutions with ties to health care, so those sectors should be extra vigilant and on high alert.

### **VDH Contract Tracing Update**

VA Dept of Health working group on containment & contract tracing is planning out, and helping put into place, case investigation and contact tracing-monitoring.

“Box-in/Test-Trace-Isolate” is the overall goal of the working group in terms of case investigation and contract tracing. As COVID-19 is identified with the increase in testing capabilities, thorough case investigations will take place to include:

- Making sure cases are referred to medical care when necessary
- Isolating cases so as to stop the spreads
- Sharing clinical and epidemiology data to learn more about COVID-19
- Creating and maintaining a list of who the cases may have been in contact with when they were infectious/contagious
- Passing cases to Contact-Tracing case officers once cases are identified & their information is shared to be followed-up upon for 14 days after their last exposure; this will include automated daily check-ins in the form of emails/text messages/calls and if there is an indication of any individual developing symptoms, ensuring they are connected to proper local health care for testing/medical treatment

This method, in theory, reduces the spread by interrupting chains of transmission by identifying and isolating those who ARE sick and capable of spreading this illness to others, and in doing so, you quarantine individuals presenting symptoms so they do not in turn transmit COVID-19 to large numbers of others while they are ill.

Even with technology, and automated systems, this effort will require hiring a large number of people (i.e.: 1000 contact tracers, 1200 case investigators, as well as a handful of folks to assist in the process of Regional coordination and data analytics). Some have started to on-board, and the VDH website has an orange box about who they are looking to hire, as well a link to apply for the posted jobs.

### **DHS/CISA**

Nothing Significant to Report

### **VDEM**

There are currently 136 Local Declarations, with 58 local EOC's opened.

As previously mentioned, we are at 24-hour coverage again.

VEST continues to coordinate efforts to expand the number of testing opportunities across the Commonwealth, in coordination with the Health Equity Group and the VA Dept of Health.

We are using the National Guard to increase our testing capacity (i.e.: Long term care facilities, jails & prisons), meat processing plants, congregate housing, and, finally, the community at large in conjunction with locality officials.

We entered Hurricane Season on Monday, with our third named storm, and we continue to work diligently on our planning for operating in a COVID public health emergency.

There are some very specific things and secondary events we will need to address with regard to a Hurricane Response in a COVID-19 environment, i.e.: decreased capacity in shelters, need for more shelters to continue social distancing, enhanced sanitation, and mass feeding operations. We will be working with state agencies and localities as this plan is developed.

There is a future planning cell within VEST, to include VDEM along with other state agencies that have roles in hurricane or flooding events. We have developed our concept of operations, and we are working on our Incident Support Plan.

### **Private Sector Updates**

I wanted to re-highlight some resources for PPE Sourcing options and share a new resource. All of these can be found on the Virginia private sector website under 'Private Sector Program Resources for Business and Industry'.

Also, if you visit the State DGS website ([eva.virginia.gov](http://eva.virginia.gov)) look for the COVID-19 emergency vendors list, which is updated every 24 hours.

Additionally these websites are also good resources for PPE (posted in the private sector website):

<https://www.mcclungcompanies.com/vma>

<https://www.Projectn95.org>

With regard to FEMA cloth face mask allocations, 121,500 have been received & allocated; we anticipate 131K more, though date of arrival is TBD.

If your agency is having trouble procuring masks through other channels, we are reaching out to the associations to prioritize these allocations so please communicate your need through them.

There is now a service available for N95 mask sanitation from Battelle. We have 3 units across the state; you can mail the N95 mask and have them sanitized and returned. This will help with





the resupply challenges, as N95 masks are hard to come by nowadays. If your organization is interested in using this sanitation service for N95, please email: [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov), and we will send you the instructions.

The process includes registering on the Battelle site and using your assigned registration number to mail your N95 to one of our 3 units in Virginia (Blacksburg, Richmond, Newport News). The N95 will be sanitized and returned by mail.

As a reminder, the purpose of the Private Sector Survey ([Virginia.gov/covid19supplies](https://www.virginia.gov/covid19supplies)); this is a survey where businesses and industry can submit their offers of assistance to the State relative to critical supplies for our hospital and healthcare workers, first responders, and emergency response. The survey will accept offers for products, equipment, services, and skilled teams.

Please coordinate your company's offers – we are seeing duplicates in the systems that have been submitted by different people which delays the process.

Please also consolidate all offers of assistance into one entry; a single entry can accept products, equipment, services, and skilled teams so there is no need for multiple entries from the same business.

When you receive our follow up, please read through the email fully to ensure you are providing all additional information requested as we are asking for some very specific information in some cases.

If we reach out to you and do not hear back after three attempts, we will put the offer on hold as unresponsive.

If you have not heard back from the Private Sector team, please check your Spam email.

Turnaround time for all offers of assistance is now between 48-72 hours unless the offer is made on Friday afternoon or over the weekend.

Please do not submit offers for your business more than once, especially if you have already been sent to DGS for financial and reference checks. If the Private Sector Team has followed up with you and received a quote, then the information has been sent to DGS.

As mentioned last week, we recently made some changes to the survey as testing is becoming a top priority. Currently the Private Sector Team is working with DCLS, DGS, VEDP on test kit evaluation process to streamline the evaluation of viable options. If you have already been contacted about PPE and also have test kits to offer, please note we will be going back through

the database to pull those vendors and send an additional follow up to you. If test kits are a new capability you have please email the Private Sector email and include Test Kits in the subject line.

The daily power point was reduced to three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. While the VEOC remains at Orange or partial activation, we are operating 24 hour shifts to cover the protests and civil unrest events ongoing across the State.

Emails on Tuesday/Thursdays and weekends will only be sent if there is something significant to relay (i.e.: Governor Press Release related to COVID-19 or a secondary emergency, EOs or Policy changes that would impact businesses).

We are also going to be sending out information on the current Tropical Storm, as well.

## Q&A

Q: Follow up from last week regarding any processes or programs to start manufacturing PPE and sanitizer in the Commonwealth? We are a company in New Jersey and can be reached at (782) 361-1386; we want to bring 10K jobs to Virginia.

A: Please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) or visit [Virginia.gov/COVID19/supplies](https://www.virginia.gov/COVID19/supplies) as solicitations are not part of this call.

Q: VA manufacturing association, wondering what the difference is in Richmond & NOVA and where did they fail in the metrics that kept them from moving into phase 2?

There is not a lot of information or easily accessible information on the website, the numbers indicate a downward trend, and a number of businesses call daily asking why they did not move into Phase 2? The reports are hard to read to distill the data. There needs to be more transparency, as fatigue and panic is beginning to set in for businesses who cannot understand the decision making process. There is an appetite for a clearly- understandable, one-pager that Businesses can reference.

A: The local governments in those specific areas made the decision to not move into Phase 2 based on their assessment of key metrics and not meeting them in the appropriate timeline. Each locality's website should list more detail; we will also share this feedback internally with leadership. In the interim, Fairfax County has been releasing metrics & expectations, the metrics and participating in the bi-weekly Fairfax county BEOC calls. Visit their website for more information: <https://www.ffxbeoc.org/>. Additionally, if you Google "VDH key measures" you can find information online on all ongoing efforts. Alexandria City also has a lot of information on their local website.

Q: How can we update PPE quantity and adjust offers at a certain price once the survey has been completed?

A: CGS or VDEM are in fairly regular touch with all applicants, and for something as fluid as pricing of procurements, the VA PS Team is not involved in this. Rather, the VA PS Team is initial responses and marrying up lists of need & capabilities.

**Reminders** – this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

1. **Private Sector Website:** <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
2. To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia **Private Sector Portal** at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
3. **Private Sector Survey** for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
4. For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)
5. For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
6. For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
7. For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

**Call frequency** – weekly, Next Call Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 12:30PM



### **Introduction:**

Called to order by Stacie Neal @1233

### **Intent of Call:**

For those who have not participated previously, the intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA. Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line where you will have an opportunity to ask questions the; all speakers will stay on the line. As always, while we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we always provide responses to you individually whether that be through emails, the Private Sector Portal, updates on our website, or this weekly meeting call.

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Nor is this call is for media; if you are media, please hang up and contact the JIC at [COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov)

This call is intended to get actionable information from state government into hands of businesses and industries in Virginia for situational awareness and decision-making purposes relative to your operations & health and safety of your employees.

### **Updates:**

As of today, the number of confirmed COVID19 cases in Virginia is 25,800, current total hospitalizations stand at 3,395; there have been 891 fatalities.

On Monday May 4<sup>th</sup> the Governor extended key provisions of Executive Order 53: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) until Thursday May 14, at 12 midnight. The Stay at Home Executive Order is in place until June 10; as of last Friday indicators were pointing to this will be rescinded or amended to reflect to an earlier date. The Governor also reported out on what health metrics we are looking for to drive the reopening of the economy are:

- Positive cases in a downward trend for 14 days
- Hospital capacity remaining steady for 14 days

- Increased capacity for testing
- Necessary PPE supplies readily available to continue providing care in hospitals and health care facilities

There is an online slide show regarding these metrics on the Governor's website, as well a link to it on the Private Sector page. Additionally, these new graphics are available daily on VDHA's website and are downloadable.

On May 9, the Governor signed [EO 61 Phase One- Easing Of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due To Novel Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#), presenting a detailed framework for the first phase of Forward Virginia. The plan is to safely and gradually ease the public health restrictions, while containing the spread of COVID19. EO 61 also modifies public health guidance [EO-53-SECOND-AMENDED-Extension-of-Temporary-Restrictions-Due-To-Novel-Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#) as well as [EO-55-Temporary-Stay-at-Home-Order-Due-to-Novel-Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#), and establishes guidelines for Phase One of reopening. The phase one guidelines will be implemented when the data meets public health criteria outlined by the Commonwealth, which is scheduled for May 14 with the exception of Northern Virginia.

The Governor's Phase One approach is based on Science & Data and includes mitigation strategies to slow the spread of the COVID19 virus through enhanced safety practices. The plan allows localities to consider delaying implementation of Phase One guidelines based on local conditions. Guidance for all business sectors can be found on the Commonwealth's COVID19 webpage, links are also on the private sector webpage. The guidance that is specific to business sectors includes the following:

- Restaurants & Beverage Services
- Farmer Markets
- Brick & Mortar Retail
- Personal Care & Grooming Services
- Fitness & Exercise Facilities
- Campgrounds & Summer Camps
- Religious Services

If you have not yet read the new guidance issued under [EO 61 Phase One- Easing Of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due To Novel Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#), please prioritize making time to do so as it is very thorough and provides specific guidance to business sectors listed above, as well as businesses overall.

On May 11 the Governor announced a pilot program in the City of Richmond to support the Commonwealth's ongoing focus on health equity. The partnership aims to increase equitable access to PPE in underserved communities that may be the most adversely impacted by the virus. Virginia's Health Equity Leadership Taskforce is working to leverage data to prioritize

areas experiencing disproportionate impacts and is partnering with the City of Richmond to prioritize policies & programs. This initiative includes increasing the number of test sites available in those areas.

Yesterday, May 12, the Governor along with the State Health Commissioner, Norm Oliver, issued [EO-62-and-Order-of-Public-Health-Emergency-Four-Jurisdictions-Temporarily-Delayed-From-Entering-Phase-One-in-Executive-Order-61-and-Permitted-to-Remain-in-Phase-Zero](#). This is applicable to specific areas in Northern Virginia to delay entering Phase One of Forward Virginia. Starting Friday, Northern Virginia will delay opening until Thursday May 28 due to the preponderance of cases within that specific area. This decision was made in collaboration with, and at the request of, County Administrators and City Managers in Northern Virginia. There are links to all of these referenced Executive Orders on both the Governor's webpage as well as the Private Sector webpage.

With regard to the Blueprint for Northern Virginia (which includes Phases One, Two & Three) Phase One is very well developed and anticipated to last appx between 2-4 weeks, depending on the Health Metrics. Phases Two & Three have basic frameworks, but are still being fleshed out; as this occurs more information will be promptly provided. These phases are also supposed to last appx 2-4 weeks each.

Phase One Restrictions include:

- Stay At Home directive transitioning to a Safer At Home directive (especially for vulnerable populations)
- The ban of more than ten people at a social gathering in one place at one time will remain in place.
- Continue Social Distancing
- Continue Teleworking
- Face Coverings are still recommended for people in public
- Easing of restrictions on Businesses & Safe Communities, so that they may gradually begin to re-open

Phase One guidelines FOR BUSINESSES include:

- Physical Distancing
- Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfecting
- Enhanced Workplace Safety

Phase TWO guidelines FOR BUSINESSES include:

- Stay at Home for vulnerable populations
- No social gathering of 50 or more
- Continue teleworking
- Continue social distancing
- Face Covering recommended in public
- Further easing of businesses limitation

Phase THREE guidelines FOR BUSINESSES include:

- LONGTERM PLAN
- There must be NO evidence of rebound for a sustained period of time
- (T) 10-12 weeks from implementing Phase Three
- Safer at Home for vulnerable populations
- Removal of bans on social gatherings
- Removal of Capacity Limitations on Establishments
- Continued Heightened Cleaning and Disinfection
- More to Come, as well

The Governor's Press Conferences will continue to be held Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2pm EST through the end of next week (May 22<sup>nd</sup>). Beginning the week of May 25, 2020 the press conferences will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### **Agency Reports**

#### **Virginia Department of Health Rachel Ellick and Jessica Rosner**

As mentioned, [EO 61 Phase One- Easing Of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due To Novel Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#) and accompanying Business Guidelines were released last week.

All businesses should incorporate the first section of the Business Guidelines into their operations. For certain categories of Non-Essential Businesses the first section of the Business Guidelines are required. In Phase One the following guidelines will be enforced and must be adhered to:

- **Restaurants** can continue take-out and delivery; they can also start to offer outdoor dining but only with tables being 6 feet apart and the feeding area may not exceed 50% capacity.
- **Farmers Markets** may also allow pick-up and take-out, and may have outdoor seating, so long as tables are separated by at least 6 ft, including being spaced 6 ft from any pedestrian area, as well.
- **Brick & Mortar Retail** may now expand to 50% occupancy load. Essential Brick & Mortar Retail stores are not capped at 50% occupancy load, but they should still adhere to best practices outlined. Essential Brick & Mortar Retail stores should also provide face coverings for their employees.
- **Fitness & Exercise** limited classes may now be offered in an outdoor setting, but 10 ft of separation is required for all participants, including the instructor. Classes are limited to 10 people, also including the instructor. Outdoor swimming pools may only open for lap swimming, one person per lane, and strictly for health, not recreational purposes. All other pools must remain closed at this time.
- **Hair Salons & Personal Grooming** may open but are limited to 50% occupancy load, one customer per provider. All customers and providers are required to wear cloth masks while services are provided.
- **Campgrounds** may open for short-term stays but each campsite must be 20 ft apart.
- **Indoor shooting ranges** may open at a 50% capacity, and must include physical distancing.



- **Recreational & Entertainment** business will remain closed.
- **Religious services** may operate but only with 50% capacity and proper social distancing observed while both seated and/or moving throughout the facility; no common items are to be passed during these services.

### Department of Agriculture: Bill Scruggs

VA Tech Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics recently published a study related to COVID19, which will be sent out via tonight's email distribution, or you can access it at: [aaec.vt.edu/extension/resources.html](http://aaec.vt.edu/extension/resources.html). This study focuses mainly on the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on Virginia's farm and agribusiness sector as of the beginning of May 2020. It was conducted to raise awareness of the economic impacts of the disease that have been felt much more broadly, as businesses have been forced to close or operate under different conditions, and as consumer spending power declines. As we look ahead, there is tremendous uncertainty about how the pandemic will end and how it will affect the global economy and our individual lives and livelihoods both in the short term and permanently. Of note, this 32-page document specifically goes into depth on the following areas:

- General economic outlook
- Overviews of the pandemic's disruptions to the U.S. food supply chain and several major agricultural industries in Virginia
- Agricultural policy under the pandemic
- Detailed analysis of effects of the pandemic on Virginia grain markets
- Results of a national survey of the impacts of the pandemic on aquaculture producers, with a focus on Virginia's main aquaculture products
- Analysis of the current state of affairs for U.S.-China

Commodity prices have finally started to stabilize after several weeks of a volatile market conditions:

- Feeder Cattle prices are mostly steady at this time, but still 6% lower than February 2020.
- Grain prices continue to be pressured by low export, low ethanol production in the country, and concern over gross feed demand because of meat plant closures.
- National beef & pork slaughter capacity is down significantly due to plant closures, and plants running at reduced capacity.
- Appx 50 plants have temporarily closed around the country, and those that do remain open, or have re-opened, are running at reduced capacity.
- The United States is down by 32% in beef slaughter, and down 36% in pork slaughter compared to this time last year.
- Demand for produce remains strong; supply and prices have significantly rebounded from the start of the food service and restaurant supply chain disruptions.
- Virginia has not entered their produce season yet but many grocer retailers have expressed interest in local farms, and local direct store delivery will be moved up to a much earlier phase this year.





With regard to food distribution, the Department is working via an MOU with Virginia Federation of Food Banks to assist in applying for FEMA dollars; the federation is looking for \$1.5M for the food purchase program.

Last week USDA released the awardees for CFAP's boxed lunch program; only one company in the Commonwealth was awarded funding ([De Lune Corp](#) located in Springfield, VA). However, [Costal Sunbelt](#) in MD was also a recipient, and they work with 15-20 of Virginia's key farmers in the produce supply chain.

Some background on CFAP: USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the Coronavirus Food Assistance (CFAP) program on April 17, 2020. CFAP will use funding and authorities provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and other USDA existing authorities. This \$19 billion immediate relief program will provide critical direct support to our farmers and ranchers, maintain the integrity of our food supply chain, and ensure every American continues to have access to the food they need.

In cooperation with the VA Department of Health and the VA Farm Bureau, tonight (May 13) at 7PM EST there will be a webinar to discuss the Guest Worker program, specifically safety requirements for both employment as well as housing. It can be accessed at: [global.gotomeetings.com/join/453890901](https://global.gotomeetings.com/join/453890901)

## **VDEM**

The number of COVID19 declarations continues to increase: the current number is 136 jurisdictions. Even the number of open EM centers has increased, now at 58. VDEM continues to remain at FULL ACTIVATION, albeit largely virtual. This is now officially the longest activation in Virginia history, even surpassing 9/11, with no end in sight.

VEST is coordinating efforts to enhance testing opportunities using the National Guard in addition to the VA Department of Health. The focus is on congregate housing (i.e.: Long term care facilities, jails & prisons), meat processing plants, and, finally, the community at large. VA has increased its testing capacity; goal is to increase it even more.

The Governor's EO's have been translated into multiple languages; however, if there are documents you come across on the webpage that need translation, or if there is a language you notice has been overlooked, please email the specifics to [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) so we may assist in translating materials into what you may need.

## **VDEM PS:**

By way of an Update on FEMA's cloth face masks, the first distribution has occurred. VDEM received 120k cloth masks, which have already been distributed to various businesses in and around VA. This was done in conjunction with trade associations and also informed by requests directly received by the VDEM PS program.

A second round of cloth face masks have now been received. Distribution prioritization is underway, with the focus being on CI Employees and Essential Workers, particularly transportation industry (not just trucking, but also Uber and Lyft to ensure those individuals have the PPE they need as they provide services during the reopening of the economy). There is also a focus on grocery workers, and other essential workers that interface with the public.

If you have a PPE need and have not yet been in contact with VDEM PS, please be sure to do so by emailing [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov). VDEM PS is working closely with the VDEM Regional staff (who work directly with each local EM) to coordinate distribution of all cloth face masks so as to ensure localities are aware that this PPE item is inbound as they make their own PPE distribution decisions.

As Virginia looks to reopen, VDEM PS is aware that many businesses are in the process of trying to source PPE on their own. If you are having difficulty, and you have needs, please be aware of the following three resources (all of which can also be accessed thru the link that is listed in the daily VDEM PS email for the dashboard):

1. [Virginia Department of General Services](#)
2. [Virginia Manufacturing Association](#)
3. [ProjectN95.org](#)

With regard to the PS Survey, if you have offers of assistance and you have submitted to the survey, or you are thinking about doing so, here are some reminders:

- The survey is where Business & Industry can submit any offers of assistance (donations and/or procurement) relative to critical supplies for hospitals and Health Care workers, first responders, and emergency responders in general.
- The Survey is not limited to PPE; it can be services, equipment, skilled teams, etc.
- You can access the survey here: [virginia.gov/COVID19supplies](http://virginia.gov/COVID19supplies)
- Please coordinate within your company if you are making a submission, as your company can use one submission for any type of offer; this also avoids duplicative submissions which slows down tracking and follow up for everyone, because of time spent having to de-conflict multiple submissions from the same company.

If you have received a follow up email from VDEM PS in response to your submission, please read through it closely to ensure you reply with all the requisite information. This is necessary for you to move forward in the process; if you have not replied with all of the additional information that was requested after 3 attempts to reach you, your offer will be placed on hold, and you will need to reach out at that point. So, check your spam folder if you are waiting for a response from VDEM PS. Turn around time for all offers of assistance is between 48-72 hours, with the exception of any submission made on a Friday afternoon (as these requests are being reviewed Monday-Friday only).

## Q&A

Q: How do you update pricing that was provided on a procurement offer via the PS Survey?

A: If you have not yet been contacted by someone on our team asking for a formal quote you will be soon. At that point you can provide updated pricing. If you are already working with someone in our Department of General Services (DGS) you can coordinate updated pricing with them directly. We understand pricing is fluctuating with the market and the survey is just meant to be a starting point for collecting information.

Q: When can trade shows and conferences commence?

A: Likely Phase Three, so stay tuned.

Q: What was the link for tonight's webinar?

A: [global.gotomeetings.com/join/453890901](https://global.gotomeetings.com/join/453890901)

Q: Can you share more detail on what the business community can expect with the new guidance that the state will now be opening Regionally?

A: The Localities in Northern VA asked VDEM to wait to open because the number of cases; and with it being so close to DC and MD, it made sense for Northern Virginia to stay closed.

We will provide more information on this as things become more certain, especially around testing, as Phase Two and Phase Three (which as mentioned is still being fleshed out) so, more to come on a future call.

**Reminders** – this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

**Private Sector Website:** <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>

To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia **Private Sector Portal** at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>

**Private Sector Survey** for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>



**VIRGINIA'S  
HEALTH  
IS IN YOUR  
HANDS.**  
Do your part,  
stop the spread.

## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes May 13, 2020 @1230EST



For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to  
[commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)

For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>  
For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit  
<https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

**Call frequency** – weekly

Next Call Wednesday, May 20, 2020, 12:30PM

## Introduction:

Called to order by Stacie Neal @1234

## Intent of Call:

- The intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA.
- Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line. While we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we are documenting all questions and will make every effort to provide responses to you through the Private Sector Portal or updates on our website
  - The questions during this call should not be related to solicitations of services or products.
- This call is intended to get actionable information from State government into the hands of businesses and industry in Virginia for situational awareness and decision-making purposes relative to their operations and the health and safety of their employees.

## Updates:

- Mar 23: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Mar 30: [EO-55 Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- On April 2, [President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration for Virginia](#) opening up additional resources for Virginia in this fight against COVID-19
- April 13 [EO 56 ordering that the primary elections scheduled for June 9, 2020, be held on June 23, 2020.](#)
- April 16 letter to Virginia's Congressional Delegation to request additional programs and funding to combat the public health emergency, address the economic fallout, and prepare for economic recovery.
- April 24: [EO-59 Moved the general elections from May 5th, 2020, to May 19th, 2020](#)
- Forward Virginia: This is Virginia's blueprint for reopening the economy. It focuses on prioritizing public health building public confidence. The blueprint for the path forward is data driven, and provides clear guidance so businesses and individuals can know what to expect and understand how decisions will be made for lifting certain public health restrictions. This will be a phased approach.

- April 28: [EO-60 Created clarification for certain immunity from liability for healthcare workers in response to the novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- May 4: EO-53 has been extended until May 14th until midnight
- On Monday, May 4, the Governor Northam extended key provisions of Executive Order 53, Thursday, May 14, at midnight and detailed health metrics that we continue to monitor to ensure that trends of
  - positive cases are going downward,
  - hospital capacity remains steady,
  - testing is increased, and
  - hospitals and medical facilities have necessary supplies of PPE.
- The slideshow on these key metrics, will be sent this group in the daily email this evening and will be made available on the Private Sector website. The metrics include:
  - New data graphs are available daily (starting yesterday, May 5) on VDH website to better explain how Virginia is progressing with positive cases, hospitalizations, fatalities, hospital capacity, and PPE acquisition.
  - Downloadable CSV files for each
  - “Data Insights” and additional information, including blog posts, available
- Blueprint VA:
  - Phase 1 restrictions will include:
    - Transition from a stay at home order, to a ‘safer at home’ guideline:
      - A ban on social gatherings of more than 10 people
      - Continued social distancing
      - Continued teleworking
      - Recommendation of face coverings for those in public
      - Easing of some restrictions on businesses and faith communities
      - Expected to last 2-4 weeks, or longer based on health metrics
  - Guidelines For businesses:
    - Physical distancing
    - Enhanced cleaning and disinfection
    - Enhanced workplace safety
  - Phase 2 restrictions include:
    - Stay-at-home for vulnerable populations
    - No social gatherings of 50 people or more
    - Continued social distancing
    - Continued teleworking
    - Face coverings recommended in public
    - Further easing of limitations on businesses
  - Anticipated to last 2-4 weeks, or longer

- Phase 3: Long Term plan
  - To move to Phase 3, we are looking for no evidence of rebound for a sustained period of time and could be 10-12 weeks away from this phase
  - Includes:
    - 'Safer at home' for vulnerable populations
    - Removal of the ban on social gatherings
    - Removal of capacity limits in establishments
    - Continued heightened cleaning and disinfection
    - Possible other measures
- The length of each of the three phases is dependent upon Virginia's progression along the health metrics detailed Monday
- The Governor is holding Press Conferences on M, W, F at 2PM
- Statistics:
  - VA Cases: 20,256
  - Total current COVID-19 Hospitalizations: 1496
  - Deaths: 713

### **Agency Reports:**

#### **Dr. Megan Healy & Jane Dittmar:**

Starting in February Virginia had a strong economy, with a 2.6 unemployment rate, which is a historical low. There were more Virginians working than ever before. There are 24 different workforce programs in 8 agencies. We have over half a million people on unemployment as of right now, with those who have been laid off or furloughed. There are 61 career work centers around the state with programs to help people get jobs. As of February, there were more jobs open than people looking for jobs. Data is being crunched to see where the gaps exist and what can be done to fill them.

The workforce working group presented to the Economic Crisis Strike Force yesterday about the economic recovery efforts. In order to develop the plan to help Virginians back into the workforce, a landscape survey was conducted to get feedback from all aspects of Virginia's workforce. The landscape survey consisted of eight broad categories, with multiple respondent groups. 450 leaders have been surveyed, with a response rate of over 20 percent. Most respondents said they expect to return to pre-COVID levels of employment, and many reported that more flexible schedules and increased teleworking will continue post-COVID.



We were able to survey all county administrators and city & town managers. Most local governments were working to adjust their schedules to avoid furloughs. But in some areas furloughs are happening and are expected to increase due to revenue shortfalls. They are included in recovery planning, but cross-jurisdictional planning is not consistent. The General Assembly committees that were surveyed were targeted for those who hear bills on the areas concerning training and re-employment. We wanted to hear who on their staff was working on workforce re-employment efforts, and what they are doing about them. The biggest concern in the state is the lack of PPE, lack of paid leave, lack of living wages, and lapse in medical coverage. Congressional Delegations were also surveyed.

All community college presidents were surveyed, as well as the profit and non-profit training providers. They stated they could adjust classroom labs to abide by social distancing, but there are concerns about needing to increase faculty teaching workloads.

Different executive branch agency heads and departments were also surveyed. The first group is not part of the 24 workforce programs. The first one was the Department of Labor & Industries; they are drilling down on workforce safety and what that will look like when the state reopens. Department of Professional & Occupational Regulations; they feel that they will be able to return to the standard licensing procedures. Virginia Economic Development Partnership is drilling down on data and helping the Private Sector Team secure PPE for the healthcare and trade sector. The Department of Housing & Community Development; has allocated 14.66 million in economic resilience and recovery funds, which will be issued in the form of grants across their nine regions.

The agencies that are directly coordinated with the, Department of Education, Virginia Employment Commission, Community College System, Department of Aging & Rehabilitative Services, Department of Blind & Vision Impaired, and Department of Corrections. Most are engaged in some level of recovery planning already, and are working to overcome the federal regulations that create difficulties for training and re-employment services.

All of the recommendations came with a large level of detail, and we are moving on to the writing of the plan. Dr. Healy and her team are putting together a plan on the actions that has 3 goals: re-employ Virginians when businesses reopen their workplaces; actions to take in the event of a resurgence in the fall; create greater efficiency in the current workforce system so we can better respond to emergencies in the future.

If you would like more information, you can email at [workforce@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:workforce@governor.virginia.gov)



**Virginia Department of Health: Rachel Ellick**

The VDH has been working closely with the governor's office to finalize guidance for phase 1 reopening, and are currently working on some FAQs and other guidance documents and tools to navigate that space safely. It would include guidance for businesses and consumers, as well as education groups and childcare centers, to ensure that those businesses can open safely, so more parents can go back to work.

We have been working with other community partners, like education businesses, social services, and religious organizations, and funeral directors to start planning for phase two. We are also working to make the website more navigable for those who come to it.

**Department of Agriculture: Bill Scruggs**

We are seeing more stability in the markets. All of the markets around the state are up and running. The cattle count is still on the rise, close to the normal range. Prices are a little mixed, but they have steadied out, and improved over previous weeks but they are still down compared to February. Virginia grain is in the planting stage. We are seeing a continuous downward trend due to the impact of ethanol, and now processing plants are closing. These impacts have immediate impacts. Vegetables have come back in demand; several different vegetables have higher prices than past weeks. Strawberries are down slightly due to California strawberries being ready.

There have been 49 meat or poultry plants that have closed for a short period of time and reopened. We have seen one plant closed in VA, but it has reopened. Two on the Eastern Shore and those in the Shenandoah Valley are working with CDC and VDH on plant safety, PPE, and testing.

The food distribution program has gained a 30-day extension for the household food distribution program, all 7 Virginia food banks are working with the program and the extension will last until May 27. Virginia will receive an additional \$9 million for the Federation of Food Banks. We are working with the CFAP program to provide opportunities for regional distribution companies and farmers to provide fresh produce, dairy, and meat, to non-profit organizations to distribute them to families in need. The applications to do so were sent in last week, and we should hear back soon. There are a number of safeguards in place food production.

**VA Fusion Center: Andrew Dunnick**

The PSA the FBI re-issued an information product, about the remote desktop protocol, where your machine can be taken over remotely. While the date is from September 2018, it is still very pertinent today; this product was sent to the private sector group on Monday. There was also a VFC document about securing your online accounts that was also sent on Monday. We have realized that there is a huge variance in people's ability to understand cyber security information. The CISA website is a good place to go for cyber security information. The VFC is also seeing a new theme with Zoom and Cisco; the use of phishing emails to acquire credentials.

**CISA: Rob Mooney**

A lot has been done in order to ensure that the food supply remains operational and adequate. PPE is being distributed to areas of need, increased testing, and increased communication between hospitals and distribution facilities. FEMA issued new guidance on [www.fema.gov/coronavirus](http://www.fema.gov/coronavirus) This document has thought-provoking guidelines for businesses looking to reopen. The document is called 'The Planning Consideration for Organizations in Reconstituting Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

**VDEM: Stacie Neal**

Local declarations remain at 135 and 55 jurisdictions have EOCs open. The Virginia EOC is at full activation, mostly virtual. This is now the longest EOC Activation in Virginia history.

The VEST is coordinating efforts to increase testing opportunities, using the National Guard, setting priorities on long-term care facilities, jails/prisons, and food/meat processing. And then looking at the community as a whole. Combined efforts between the Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and the Virginia National Guard. Priorities are being set by the Governor's office.

All of the Executive Orders have been translated into Spanish, Arabic, Korean, Mandarin, and Haitian Creole. They can be found at <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>. If there are other languages documents need to be translated into please email the private sector at [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

## Private Sector

- There is now a private sector website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
  - Setup as a landing page for the private sector to access business related information regarding Virginia's response to COVID-19
  - Password provided once you are registered on the Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- As we are looking at reopening, I want to provide information for those trying to source PPE
  - The state has a website with a list of vendors that have proof of PPE.
    - The website is <https://eva.virginia.gov>
  - There is another initiative through the Virginia Manufacturers Association, that has a website with sourcing information
    - This website is [www.mcclungcompanies.com/vma](http://www.mcclungcompanies.com/vma)
  - The third website is nation wide
    - <https://www.Projectn95.org>
- There is a survey that businesses can use to give offers of help (Virginia.gov/covid19supplies);
  - Please have only one person submit the entry to streamline the process
  - Please consolidate the all offers into one entry
- The FEMA cloth masks have been received
  - They are intended for critical infrastructure partners and essential workers
    - Email the private sector email if you need the masks for your company

## Questions:

**David White:** What is the email for the first presentation? **Dr. Heely:**

[workforce@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:workforce@governor.virginia.gov) **David:** In the phase openings, when will large meetings be permissible? **Stacie:** I do not know if I have an exact answer, but right now under Phase 2, gatherings of fifty or less will be allowed. Likely not permitted until Phase 3 but will inquire and follow up

**Jodi Roth:** I just wanted to say thank you for the assistance of the VEST in acquiring cloth face masks for essential retail and pharmacies.

**Dale Bennett:** Please give me a call back so we can discuss masks for truck drivers; Stacie – will do

**Jodi Gettyy:** With the masks being provided, is there a cost? And how do we get some of them?

**Stacie:** There is no cost, and they are intended for those in critical infrastructure roles. Email the private sector email and I will put you on the distribution list for the next set.

**Reminders** -- this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

- Private Sector Website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
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- Private Sector Survey for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
- For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)
- For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
- For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

**Adjourned @1331**

**Next Call Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 12:30 PM**

**Introduction:**

Called to order by Stacie Neal @1234

**Intent of Call:**

- The intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA.
- Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line. While we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we are documenting all questions and will make every effort to provide responses to you through the Private Sector Portal or updates on our website
  - The questions during this call should not be related to solicitations of services or products.

**Updates:**

- Mar 23: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Mar 30: [EO-55 Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- On April 2, [President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration for Virginia](#) opening up additional resources for Virginia in this fight against COVID-19
- On April 6, the Governor adopted CDC recommendations encouraging all Virginians to wear a cloth face mask whenever out in public.
- April 13 [EO 56 ordering that the primary elections scheduled for June 9, 2020, be held on June 23, 2020.](#)
- April 15: EO-53 Was extended until at least May 8th.
- Executive Order 57 was issued on April 17 with the intent of increasing the healthcare workforce by allowing out of state licensed healthcare practitioners to practice in Virginia hospitals, to allow out-of-state licensed clinical psychologists and counselors to practice in Virginia, and to allow interns, residents, and fellows with active temporary licenses to practice medicine in a hospital, this includes respiratory care program students.
- April 16 letter to Virginia's Congressional Delegation to request additional programs and funding to combat the public health emergency, address the economic fallout, and prepare for economic recovery.
- April 24: [EO-59 Moved the general elections from May 5th, 2020, to May 19th, 2020](#)

Adjourned @ 1320

- Forward Virginia: This is Virginia's blueprint for reopening the economy. It prioritizes public health and to build public confidence. The blueprint for the path forward is data driven, and provides clear guidance so businesses and individuals can know what to expect and understand how we will decide when to lift certain public health restrictions. This will be a phased approach.
- April 27: The Governor has created the Covid-19 Business Task Force. It is a diverse group of business leaders who are providing advice and guidance to the governor's cabinet on safe, responsible strategies for easing restrictions on businesses and individuals. The approach is grounded in Federal CDC guidelines and includes specific goals to contain the spread of the virus, through increased testing, contact tracing, and ensuring adequate medical capacity.
  - There are criteria that must be met in order to move into phase one of reopening the economy.
    - A downward trend in the percentage of positive tests over 14 days.
    - A downward trend in hospitalizations, over 14 days.
    - An increase in testing tracing.
    - Enough hospital beds and intensive care capacities.
    - An increasing and sustainable supply of PPE.
  - What we can expect with Phase 1:
    - some businesses re-opening with strict safety restrictions
    - Continued social distancing
    - Continued teleworking
    - Face coverings recommended in public.
- April 28: [EO-60 Created clarification for certain immunity from liability for healthcare workers in response to the novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- The Governor is holding Press Conferences on M, W, F at 2PM
- VA Confirmed Cases: 14,961
  - Hospitalization: 2,165
  - People in Hospitals with the virus or pending test results: 1,508
  - Fatalities: 522

### **Agency Reports:**

#### **Department of Health: Dr. Julie Murphy & Kristin Collins**

There have been actions taken to isolate the outbreaks among poultry workers, with outbreaks in three different districts of the State. Regular meetings are taking place with multiple agencies who are part of supporting the response, to see how best we can support the localities and their efforts. We are also receiving federal assistance in the form of a CDC team, that is now on

the ground, as part of a multistate effort to better understand the epidemiology and the industrial hygiene aspects, and seeing what may be the best way forward, from mitigation to testing protocols.

The CDC has changed the symptomology and we have updated the online business guidance and others, to include the new symptoms. The CDC now includes coughing, shortness of breath, fever, chills, repeated shaking, muscle aches, headaches, sore throat, and a loss of taste or smell.

The [vdh.virginia.gov](https://vdh.virginia.gov) website has guidance for businesses, schools, and others, that was last updated April 25th, about the daily COVID-19 screening of employees. This is not to be confused with guidance about critical infrastructure. There is also now guidance specific to the meat and poultry industries. The VDH is working with commerce and trade, and the business task force, to work through the business sectors and what public health practices that should be followed.

#### **Department of Agriculture: Bill Scruggs**

Currently all of the livestock markets are back up and running. The head count for cattle is back to what we would normally see this time of year. Prices are still running about 5% lower than normal, but they are coming back up. Livestock services are still providing graded sales and providing guidance on the recommended procedures.

Demand for fruits and vegetables has picked up, and prices have rebounded higher than last year. There is still an issue with potatoes, with the decrease of the french fry market. Prices for VA soybeans and corn are steady, but still lower than normal. This is largely due to the collapse of the ethanol market. There have been shipments going out at a national level, with shipments going overseas. The milk sales have stabilized and demand has picked up. Milk dumping has stopped.

There is a coronavirus farm assistance program, which is a box food program. The food banks are also helping with this, to distribute boxes to those who need them. Three distributors (produce source partners) are putting in an application which is being worked by the Food Distribution Group.

#### **VA Fusion Center: Andrew Dunnick**

There are still cyber threats and trends, but there are new, unconventional threats with fake apps and text messages. An example of the nefarious texts that an individual has been in



contact with a positive patient, and a link to follow. There are resources for you to do your own research but businesses should be aware of the issue and inform employees to be cautious.

There are also invoice scams going on in VA related to PPE, that includes a link to click. The email may be from someone who looks like they would be in charge of this area within the company. Contact the company to check.

The FBI has reissued a public service announcement warning about remote controlling desktop software that allows nefarious users to gain access to a computer. This PSA has information on mitigation actions and the vulnerabilities attached to it. This will be sent to the group.

If you have any questions you can contact the Virginia Fusion Center at [vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov)

### **VDEM: Stacie Neal**

Local declarations remain at 135 and 55 jurisdictions have EOCs open. The Virginia EOC is at full activation, mostly virtual.

All of the Executive Orders have been translated into Spanish, Arabic, Korean, and Mandarin. They can be found at <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>. There has also been a request for them to be translated into Haitian Creole, as a large percentage of the workforce at the poultry processing facilities, speak that language. If you think there are other languages that need to be translated, then email the private sector email at [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

### **Private Sector**

- There is now a private sector website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
  - Setup as a landing page for the private sector to access business related information regarding Virginia's response to COVID-19
  - Password provided once you are registered on the Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- Governors testing work group led by Dr. Karen Remley is working to towards large scale testing across the State.
- There is a survey that businesses can use to give offers of help ([virginia.gov/covid19supplies](https://www.virginia.gov/covid19supplies));
  - Please have only one person submit the entry to streamline the process
  - Please consolidate all offers into one entry
- The state has a website with a list of vendors that have proof of PPE.
  - The website is [eva.virginia.gov](https://eva.virginia.gov)



- There is another initiative through the Virginia Manufacturers Association, that has a website with sourcing information
  - This website is [www.mcclungcompanies.com/vma](http://www.mcclungcompanies.com/vma)
- The third website is nation wide
  - <https://www.Projectn95.org>

### Questions:

**Laurie Aldrich:** Is there any consideration to extend? **Stacie:** To my knowledge there has not been, but I recommend sending your question to Constituent services.  
[constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov)

**Katrina Jones:** Do you have any detail about the governor's statement about the masks received for workers in the critical infrastructures? **Stacie:** We were notified that the federal government will be sending cloth face masks for the critical infrastructure workers. We have not received them, and we have not come up with a plan to distribute them, but the energy infrastructure was included in the distribution. **Katrina:** Will the HR testing companies be able to be opened during phase one, because if not, then our workforce may be diminished. **Stacie:** That is a policy question and I recommend emailing [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov) in order to bring this to their attention. Also, please email the Private Sector email so I can reach back out to you.

**Dale Bennet:** Can you give me more information about where I can get details about the cloth face masks? **Stacie:** Send an email to the Private Sector email, and I will get back to you

**Brett Vassey:** Can you share your thinking about when or if we will have a larger scale testing for reopening? And what is the state doing to help with large scale testing at plant sites? The FDA is monkeying with regulations on the manufacturing of hand sanitizer and we would like to talk to you about it. They are starting to dictate what can or cannot be used to make ethanol, and we are concerned it will disrupt the hand sanitizer manufacturing supply chain that has just started. **Stacie:** On the second topic, I was not aware that they were making changes, so we should chat. The first question is best for Dr. Murphey. **Dr. Murphy:** I know we have a task force specifically devoted to testing protocols and strategies, led by Dr. Remley. There is another effort being led to understand serology. The state laboratory is actively engaged in those conversations and they have been helping in support of testing those who are symptomatic. As we look forward, we know the private sector is expanding its capabilities in that regard for testing, and how VDH is assessing these impacts on the implementation of mitigation

strategies. **Stacie:** I know we need to see an improvement in testing and contact tracing, and those are specifically two things mentioned in phase one, so I know it is on the radar. But we will bring it to Dr. Rumley's attention.

**Reminders** -- this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

- Private Sector Website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- Private Sector Survey for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
- For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)
- For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
- For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

**Call frequency -- weekly**

- Next call Wednesday, May 6, 2020

### **Private Sector Conference Call Agenda**

For those who have not participated previously, the intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions that Virginia is taking to mitigate, respond to, and now recover from COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update (policy and procedure standpoint), followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA representative in Virginia. Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line where you will have an opportunity to ask questions the; all speakers will stay on the line. As always, while we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we always provide responses to you individually whether that be through emails, the Private Sector Portal, updates on our website, or this weekly meeting call.

The purpose of these calls is not meant for solicitation or procurement offers; those need to be directed to the Private Sector email at: [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

Nor is this call is for media; if you are media, please hang up and contact the JIC at [COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov)

This call is intended to get actionable information from state government into hands of businesses and industries in Virginia both for situational awareness and decision-making purposes, and it becomes even more important now that we have moved into Phase One of re-opening, as businesses look to resume their operations & also take into account health and safety of your employees, and customers.

### **VDEM Situational Update**

As of today, the **number of confirmed COVID19 cases in Virginia is 32,908**, current total of **hospitalizations as of today is 1,536**, the total **cumulative hospitalizations reported is 3,979**; there have been **1,074 fatalities**.

To recap on where we are with the Executive Orders (EO) and the Forward VA process: On Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> the Governor extended key provisions of Executive Order 53: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) through last Thursday May 14, at 12 midnight.

As the economy re-opens, the detailed health metrics that we continue to monitor are:

- Positive cases in a downward trend for 14 days

- Hospital capacity remaining steady for 14 days
- Increased capacity for testing
- Necessary PPE supplies readily available to continue providing care in hospitals and health care facilities

There is an online slide show regarding these metrics on the Governor's website, as well a link to it on the VA Private Sector page. Additionally, these new graphics are available daily on VDH's website and are downloadable.

On May 9, the Governor signed [EO 61 Phase One- Easing Of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due To Novel Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#), presenting a detailed framework for the first phase of Forward Virginia, which began last Friday. Phase One is a gradual ease of public health restrictions while we continue to try and contain the spread of COVID-19. The Phase One guideline implementation began on Friday May, 15 in most of Virginia where public health criteria that was already outlined by the Commonwealth, was currently being met.

The Exceptions are as follows:

- Accomack County
- City of Richmond
- NOVA counties & cities

On May 12, the Governor issued [EO-62-and-Order-of-Public-Health-Emergency-Four-Jurisdictions-Temporarily-Delayed-From-Entering-Phase-One-in-Executive-Order-61-and-Permitted-to-Remain-in-Phase-Zero](#) which allowed those aforementioned localities to delay entering Phase One of Forward Virginia Plan, and the easing of restrictions on businesses and operations, in order to allow more time for them to meet the health metrics. This delay will go through Thursday May, 28.

As a reminder, the Governor's Phased approach is based on Science & Data and includes mitigation strategies to slow the spread of the COVID19 virus through enhanced safety practices. The plan establishes guidelines for localities when they are able to start reopening. The guidance for all business sectors can be found on the Commonwealth's COVID19 webpage, and links are also on the private sector webpage. Business sectors with specific guidance include the following:

- Restaurants & Beverage Services
- Farmer Markets
- Brick & Mortar Retail
- Personal Care & Grooming Services
- Fitness & Exercise Facilities
- Campgrounds & Summer Camps

- Religious Services

On Monday, May 11 the Governor announced a pilot program with the City of Richmond to support the Commonwealth's ongoing focus on health equity. The partnership aims to increase equitable access to PPE in underserved communities that may be the most adversely impacted by the virus. Virginia's Health Equity Leadership Taskforce is working to leverage data to prioritize areas experiencing disproportionate impacts and is partnering with those localities to establish policies & programs to address these critical issues. To date, we have held events in Harrisonburg, and the City of Richmond; this week we are finalizing an event for Petersburg. After Petersburg, there will be an event in Emporia. Other events are being planned, and will be announced once they are confirmed.

In addition, plans for distribution of face masks are being taken into consideration by leadership to be identified for these community events. None of these events are being planned in a vacuum; state officials are working directly with the localities to ensure we are putting available PPE in the areas of greatest need.

With regard to the Blueprint for Northern Virginia (which includes Phases One, Two & Three), being in Phase One right now I wanted to review the restrictions for those who may not be aware, or may not have the guidance downloaded from the website.

Phase One Restrictions include:

- Stay At Home directive has transitioned to a Safer At Home directive (especially for vulnerable populations)
- The ban of more than ten people at a social gathering in one place at one time remains in place
- Continue Social Distancing
- Continue Teleworking where possible
- Face Coverings are still recommended for people in public
- Easing of restrictions on Businesses & Faith Communities, so that they may gradually begin to re-open

Phase One is very well developed and anticipated to last appx between 2-4 weeks, though it could go on longer depending on what the Health Metrics show as we move through Phase One. Businesses will need to operate at a decreased capacity in facilities (specifically those such as fitness, restaurant, and other such places with close proximity to others).

Phase One guidelines FOR BUSINESSES include:

- Physical Distancing
- Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfecting
- Enhanced Workplace Safety

Phases Two & Three are still being developed; we have basic frameworks we anticipate seeing in Phases Two & Three. Phase Two is anticipated to last 2-4 weeks, but again, could be longer depending on the Health Metrics.

Phase TWO guidelines FOR BUSINESSES include:

- Stay at Home for vulnerable populations
- No social gatherings of 50 or more
- Continue teleworking
- Continue social distancing
- Face Coverings recommended in public
- Further easing of businesses limitations

Phase THREE guidelines will be shared once more details are available.

All of these guidelines are available on the Governor's website, as well as links on the Private Sector Website.

On Monday, May 18 the Governor announced a diverse set of education stakeholders participating in the [Commonwealth's COVID-19 Education Work Group](#) to help chart a path forward for determining how schools can safely re-open later this year.

This group is comprised of:

- Representatives from Virginia's Public & Private educational systems
  - Early Childhood
  - K-12
  - Higher Ed
- Teachers
- Superintendents
- Parents
- College Presidents
- State Agency Personnel
- Special Education Advocates
- Museum Directors
- Student Perspectives

This wide variety of education stakeholders represents a whole of Virginia's education system, and come from every Region of the Commonwealth.

There is also a separate second group focused solely on re-opening Higher Education Institutions; this group is developing guidance and they are in regular contact with College Presidents to get their input surrounding this effort.

On Tuesday, May 19 the Governor shared [new resources to protect Virginian's from eviction and support individuals who have lost their jobs, or income due to COVID-19](#). These tools include a website that is now set-up: [www.StayHomeVirginia.com](http://www.StayHomeVirginia.com)

This website is intended to help Virginian's navigate housing programs, services, and resources. The website also offers guidance on working with landlords, financial institutions, and other organizations to use eviction and foreclosure protection during this health crisis. These resources include relief for Private Mortgage Holders, Multi-family Complexes, and Tenants impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. This link ([www.StayHomeVirginia.com](http://www.StayHomeVirginia.com)) will also be added to the Private Sector portal webpage upon conclusion of today's call.

On Monday, May 18 the Governor announced that he would allow Virginia Beach to open its beaches for recreation, with restrictions, starting this Friday, May 22, as we go into Memorial Day weekend.

Virginia Beach Officials and Secretary of Natural Resources, Matt Strickler, developed a plan for reopening the Beach, with restrictions on groups & activities. As finalized, Virginia Beach's plan includes:

- Increased cleaning of high-touch areas
- Compliance monitoring by Beach Ambassadors
- 50% reduction in beach parking lots

While families & individuals WILL BE ALLOWED to **sunbathe**, **swim** and **surf**, the new rules DO PROHIBIT group activities:

- ALL group sports (i.e.: volleyball)
- Speakers playing music to large groups
- Alcohol Tents & Groups of Umbrellas

Those using the beach must adhere to social distancing rules. If these rules cannot be followed the Governor warned he would not hesitate to re-close the Beach. We all need to cooperate, as we don't want the beaches to close as we go into the summer.

The Governor's Press Conferences will be held Monday & Friday this week at 2pm EST. Next week, after Memorial Day, these Press Conferences will move to Tuesday's & Thursday's only, with the time remaining at 2 pm EST. Tuesday May, 26 will be the first in this new series.



## **Agency Reports**

### **Virginia Department of Health:**

When cases are identified, they will be assigned to a contract tracer. The contract tracer will enroll the patient in monitoring, to include a daily check of symptoms. Once the patient goes for 14-days without showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 **OR** testing positive **OR** reporting coming into contact with another case of COVID-19 (which would then re-start the 14 day clock) **THEN** the patient will be released from monitoring.

During different phases of re-opening, businesses may become aware of situations where employees are identified as contacts of COVID-19 cases. In those incidents the employee should be advised to practice self-quarantine, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others.

It is important for Businesses to begin creating plans for how to open and operate during the phases of Re-opening. In addition to developing policies for proper social distancing, and sanitizing frequently touched surfaces, Businesses should also consider developing plans for staffing changes that may arise as a result of staff becoming ill from COVID-19 OR being identified as a COVID-19 CONTACT, and needing to self-quarantine.

There are specific documents on the VDH website that address screening, monitoring, and testing of employees (both for essential and non-essential workplaces).

If an outbreak is identified in your personal business setting, please contact the local health department so it may be appropriately documented and investigated.

Additional resources are now available on our website under the [Business Toolkit](#) page (this includes signs, posters, flyers, floor-dots, table tent cards, etc. to promote social distancing; also guidance on employee health, as well as cleaning and disinfecting, and Critical Infrastructure Resources).

The toolkit is also available in Spanish, but it has not been published on line as of yet.

The Check-List for Industry and FAQ for Businesses will also be posted online soon.

Lastly, there is a downloadable pdf info-graphic that breaks down very simple step-by-step processes regarding contact tracing AND determining when an employee may return to work/when those who may have been exposed may return to work, etc.

All links will be available via the Private Sector webpage.





**Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services:**

All Livestock Markets are open throughout the Commonwealth, ahead or on-schedule.

For the week ending on May 15, state-graded feeder cattle dry food numbers were mostly steady or slightly higher; but basically remain 5% lower than where the numbers were in late February.

As of May 14, Cattle slaughter in the United States is down 26% from the same period last year; two weeks ago, Cattle slaughter was down 37%. Pork slaughter was down 20% compared to the same period last year, but that is an improvement as a few weeks ago it was down 35%. So, as the weeks move on we are seeing overall improvements.

Beef/Pork slaughter capacity is improving, although still down significantly due to processing plant closures, and plants running at reduced capacity, which reduces efficiency and negatively impacts markets by reducing demand for live animals. This also impacts the poultry industry. The net effect is that the supply of meat available on the retail side is compromised, which results in high prices.

Cash Grain Prices are also negatively impacted because there is less need.

As of May 19, there are 55M poultry plants temporarily closed and 2 poultry plants running under limited operations. This number is not going to go down, as closures are expected to continue over the next 3-4 months, and if/when plants do begin to re-open they will be doing so at a limited capacity.

On May 18, USDA Economic Research Service released their Poultry outlook. Agency data shows that COVID19 forced disruption throughout this market. Interestingly enough, despite all the challenges for the remainder of 2020, the early forecast for next year 2021 shows that production will increase significantly, so that is good news.

Continue to be involved with the Coronavirus Food Assistance (CFAP) program that was announced on April 17, 2020. CFAP will use funding and authorities provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and other USDA existing authorities. This \$19 billion immediate relief program will provide critical direct support to our farmers and ranchers, maintain the integrity of our food supply chain, and ensure every American continues to have access to the food they need. More information can be found online at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>.

Working with VA Farm Bureau and VA Dept of Health (tracking transmission statistics, risk factors, symptoms, testing) to help inform interim guidelines for migrant labor camp operations to keep safety of migrant workers in place as they are critical to our produce operations.

Produce prices are doing well due to strong demand.



Grain prices continue to be impacted by low export and low ethanol production and concerns over reduced feed demand. As of May 14, corn prices were mostly steady, but still down 11% since February; soy beans were down nearly 1%, wheat prices were down nearly 4%.

Grain Inspection Group has been involved in export cargo grain inspections in the sum of 9.4M dollars worth of soybean/corn/soybean-meal going to several countries: Dominican Republic, Burma, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Philippines, Qatar, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. This will hopefully help in the long-run.

### **VA Fusion Center**

On the line, but nothing of significance to report out.

### **DHS/CISA**

Version 3.1 has been released on Guidance for Essential Workers in Critical Infrastructure. Further refines activities within various sectors. Please read, it will be available on the Private Sector webpage after this call. It is also available at [www.CISA.gov/COVID19](http://www.CISA.gov/COVID19)

### **VDEM**

Virginia still has 136 localities under local emergency declarations. 58 Emergency operation centers are still open to some degree.

VDEM has moved to ORANGE/Partial Activation, effective as of Monday of this week. Largely virtual still, but partial activation does mean that weekends are on-call not on-duty, allowing for rest before Hurricane Season officially starts June 1.

VEST continues to coordinate efforts to expand the number of testing opportunities across the Commonwealth, in coordination with the Health Equity Group and the VA Dept of Health. We are using the National Guard to increase our testing capacity (i.e.: Long term care facilities, jails & prisons), meat processing plants, congregate housing, and, finally, the community at large in conjunction with locality officials.

Mother Nature is not standing still, we are entering Hurricane Season, the State of Michigan had two dams break causing evacuations, so we continue our planning.

There is a future planning cell within VEST, to include VDEM along with other state agencies that have roles in hurricane or flooding events. We have developed our concept of operations, and we are working on our Incident Support Plan. We are working with FEMA and the state coordinator has a TTX June 3 to walk through Hurricane planning.



There are some very specific things and secondary events we will need to address with regard to a Hurricane Response in a COVID-19 environment, i.e.: decreased capacity in shelters, need for more shelters to continue social distancing, enhanced sanitation, and mass feeding operations.

### **VDEM Private Sector:**

The daily power point is being reduced in conjunction with the change in activation status to ORANGE. The briefings will now go out Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays. Emails on Tuesday/Thursdays and weekends will only be if there is something significant to relay (i.e.: Governor Press Release related to COVID-19 or a secondary emergency, EOs or Policy changes that would impact businesses).

By way of an Update on FEMA's cloth face masks, VDEM will be receiving 1M more for distribution to small businesses, essential front-line workers and our community at large (esp. underrepresented communities). A plan for future distribution is currently being developed, allocations earmarked last week will go out today. If you have not yet been in contact and have a need for cloth masks, please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov).

In terms of PPE sourcing options. Any contract with the Commonwealth of VA is a public document and those contracts that have been issued in conjunction with COVID-19 are listed online. If you are having difficulty, and you have needs, please be aware of the following three resources (all of which can also be accessed thru the link that is listed in the daily VDEM PS email for the dashboard):

1. [Virginia Department of General Services](#)
2. [Virginia Manufacturing Association](#)
3. [ProjectN95.org](#)

With regard to the PS Survey, if you have offers of assistance and you have submitted to the survey, or you are thinking about doing so, here are some reminders:

- The survey is where Business & Industry can submit any offers of assistance (donations and/or procurement) relative to critical supplies for hospitals and Health Care workers, first responders, and emergency responders in general.
- The Survey is not limited to PPE; it can be services, equipment, skilled teams, etc.
- You can access the survey at: [virginia.gov/COVID19supplies](http://virginia.gov/COVID19supplies)
- Recently there have been some changes to the Survey as testing becomes a top priority. Working with Division of Consolidated Lab Services to incorporate additional questions on the Survey relative to testing.

- If you are a vendor that wants to submit your testing products for consideration, please fill out the new survey and answer the additional questions. Select “COVID19 testing kit” as ‘BUSINESS TYPE’, which will drive you to the questions we need answers to.
- If you have received a follow up email from VDEM PS in response to your submission, especially as it relates to PPE, and you have test kits to offer, we will be going back through our database to pull such vendors and send an additional follow-up email. You do NOT need to submit a SECOND survey, if you already have submitted one.
- If test kits are a NEW capability you have, please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) and include “TEST KITS” in the subject line, and we will ADD it to your EXSISTING survey.
- Please coordinate within your company if you are making a submission, as your company can use one submission for any type of offer; this also avoids duplicative submissions which slows down tracking and follow up for everyone, because of time spent having to de-conflict multiple submissions from the same company.
- Please read through our reply closely to ensure you reply with all the requisite information. This is necessary for you to move forward in the process; if you have not replied with all of the additional information that was requested after 3 attempts to reach you, your offer will be placed on hold, and you will need to reach out at that point. So, check your spam folder if you are waiting for a response from VDEM PS. Turn around time for all offers of assistance is between 48-72 hours, with the exception of any submission made on a Friday afternoon or over the weekend (as these requests are being reviewed Monday-Friday only).

In closing, please recognize that there is a difference between being added to the Private Sector portal for receipt of communications and making offers of assistance. If you just want to be added to the distribution list for calls and info you can register for the Private Sector portal at [bitly/vaprivatesector](https://bitly/vaprivatesector); offers of assistance should be submitted through the survey at [Virginia.gov/COVID19supplies](https://Virginia.gov/COVID19supplies).

## Q&A

Q: With regard to the number of daily tests (10K GOAL) being conducted; North Carolina is encouraging front-line workers to be tested, especially if they are unable to maintain social distancing recommendations. Can anyone speak to where Virginia is going with regard to how testing will look for front-line workers?



**VIRGINIA'S  
HEALTH  
IS IN YOUR  
HANDS.**  
Do your part,  
stop the spread.

## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes May 20, 2020 @1230EST



A: VDH will share this question with the testing group and provide a follow up answer. In the interim, the 10K number is a percentage of the overall population, which is a target goal. We know we are still ramping up to get there. We are still looking at from a state perspective going out to contract with larger companies that can help us increase the capacity for testing. As far as the guidance from North Carolina encouraging front-line workers to get tested, we will have to follow up with you on that piece as the guidance VDEM has regarding front line workers being tested is only if there is an outbreak.

*Next call: May 27, 2020*

###



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



### Introduction:

Called to order by Stacie Neal at 1235

### Intent of Call:

- The intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA.
- Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line. While we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we are documenting all questions and will make every effort to provide responses to you through the Private Sector Portal or updates on our website.
- If you are on this call, then you know that the time has changed to 12:30PM; Number and PIN will remain the same

### Updates

- Executive orders and actions taken.
  - Mar 12: [EO-51 Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 13: [Virginia COVID-19 EM-3448 Declared \(Incident Period Jan 20,2020-ongoing\)](#)
  - Mar 20: [EO-52 Increases in Hospital Bed Capacity in Response to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 20: [Order of Public Emergency One - Amended Order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner Declaration of Public Health Emergency](#)
  - Mar 23: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 25: [Order of Public Emergency Two - Order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner Declaration of Public Health Emergency](#)
  - Mar 28: [EO-54 Delegation of Authority to the Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission to Request Title XII Advances to Support Virginia Worker](#)
  - Mar 30: [EO-55 Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - On April 2, [President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration for Virginia](#) opening up additional resources for Virginia in this fight against COVID-19
  - On April 6, the Governor adopted CDC recommendations encouraging all Virginians to wear a cloth face mask whenever out in public.



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



- April 13 [EO 56 ordering that the primary elections scheduled for June 9, 2020, be held on June 23, 2020.](#)
- Press Conference today at 2PM will focus on extension of EO53 beyond April 23 and on recommendations for businesses that remain open to the public – how they can better enforce social distancing
- Confirmed cases
  - 6500 total cases in VA
  - 1048 hospitalizations
  - 195 fatalities
  - Local Declarations – 135
  - EOCs opened – 55
- Continue to amplify the messaging to OPEN businesses that they must keep everyone 6 FEET APART, and follow the best practices for enhanced sanitization
- Governor's Press conferences will be held M-W-F at 2 pm

### Agency Reports

#### **Department of Health - Dr. Julie Murphy**

Hygiene practices are continuing to be updated and they have been put on the website, and the website is being updated to ensure it is kept up to date and organized. If you access the VDH site, you will find the update on cloth masks from the CDC, including how to care for the masks.

There are two types of test for COVID-19: one to indicate you have the virus (PCR) and a second to indicate you had the virus in the past (serology). The polymer chain reaction (PCR) test detects the genetic information of the virus, or RNA, in a person. The serology test is a blood test that determines whether antibodies are present in a person. Antibodies are generated after a week or two after the virus has cleared a person's system. There is currently only one serology test approved for use in Testing and Research labs in the U.S. However, the quality and accuracy of these tests is still not ready for general use in the community. VDH State Epidemiologist is monitoring the progress of trial testing of these serology tests. A working group is developing a plan to advise Unified Command on use of these tests when they become available in Virginia.

#### **Department of Agriculture - Bill Scruggs**

Smithfield Ham has closed a plant in South Dakota due to a large outbreak of the virus. The east coast should not be impacted due to this closure. The poultry plants across the country have been closed for cleaning and filtering of sick birds. There have been cattle auctions postponed, but there is hope that they will begin again soon. The produce industry has had some dumping issues, with products that would not be used in the restaurants or stores. There are some issues with getting products to the stores. Raw milk is being dumped due to the health standards, and should not be put anywhere. The food banks are still serving the community and working to reach out to more.



Other items of interest include:

- VDACS held call with farm bureau federation, poultry federation, corn, soybean, and grain associations yesterday.
- Winchester and Abingdon closed – scheduled to come back online shortly
- Grain industry planting to continue as scheduled
- Watching ports since fertilizer comes in through Ports for this industry
- Produce dumping – farmers in So. FL dumping produce; most of it was dumping of seconds (normally doesn't make it to grocery stores); much of this dumping would occur at this time of year in the far South; no first line products dumped
- Retail side – distribution centers are full (food and produce) – having problems with manpower getting food to stores
- Milk dumping – farmers taking raw milk and dumping because availability of processing not available; raw milk is unpasteurized so not fit for sale – could create a larger problem if put into the market; this type of flushing occurs normally this time of year – media just bringing attention to it
- Migrant farm worker program in state to help with harvesting crops – farmers working with organizations have put in a lot of safety precautions – restricting access to farms from public
- Farmers Markets – place order ahead of time so that customer just has to pick up; do not have to limit patrons of 10 at a time but must adhere to social distancing (no congregating) and no touching of produce
- Disaster household feeding program has begun – last week served 700 families in Fredericksburg; 200 elsewhere

### **VA Fusion Center - Andrew Dunnick**

An issue with communications infrastructure happening in Europe but has not been seen here in the U.S. In Europe, 5G conspiracy theories that essentially suggest 5G caused COVID-19 are circulating which is prompting individuals to damage communications towers. To date, this has not been seen in the U.S.

Zoom (video conferencing software) account information has been stolen and put on the dark web. The VA COVID Task Force was stood up and issued a joint statement with the IRS regarding the economic impact packages. There have been many emails sent out about PPE and people selling or offering PPE for higher rates.

Film your hospital movement – conspiracy theory that virus not a big deal; portray empty parking lots and no lines to bolster their claim

Cyber updates – VFC highlights on indicators of fraud in COVID-19 emails; trends in sale of medical goods or PPE; even medical doctor in VA name was erroneously used as referral; be skeptical of these types of emails. The VFC is developing an intel product that can be shared.



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



### VDEM - Stacie Neal

Still at full activation (Red); some essential personnel are at the EOC but most are working virtually. Logistics and Private Sector have had a huge roll in coordinating with the private sector. We are working through donations and procurement for needed items (list PPE).

### DHS CISA - Rob Mooney

We are here to give guidance and support. We have provided guidance documents about what needs to be done. If the guidance does not have the state seal, then it is not from us.

CISA and CDC interim guidance for guidance for critical infrastructure employers. This information includes flyers for the workplace and Interim Guidance for Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19. The documents were sent out in last night's private sector daily email and links will be posted on Virginia's Private Sector website.

### Private Sector Update

- New website released today: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- Setup as a landing page for the private sector to access business related information regarding Virginia's response to COVID-19.
- Password provided once you are registered on the Private Sector Portal. Currently, there are 1065 businesses registered
- During the Governor's Press Conference today at 2PM, we expect him to extend EO53 closures and provide us with a date for that extension; he will also provide recommendations for businesses that remain open – how to improve social distancing and screen patrons; If you have questions about his comments following the press conference, please send them to [constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov) I will send out any press releases that result via the daily email distro
- The Governor announced results of the UVA and the RAND Corporation modeling on Monday. Two primary messages: social distancing is working and lifting the restrictions too soon could lead to a second wave.
- Governor Ralph Northam today announced additional details of a statewide effort in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health's Virginia Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to recruit medical and non-medical volunteers in the fight against COVID-19. It is estimated up to 30,000 volunteers are needed to provide support for the expected surge in hospitals and long-term care facilities throughout the Commonwealth. For more information or to sign up, visit <https://vamrc.org>
- I want to reiterate the purpose of the Private Sector Survey, <http://Virginia.gov/covid19supplies>; this is a survey where businesses and industry can submit their offers of assistance to the State relative to critical supplies for our hospital and healthcare workers, first responders, and emergency response. The survey will accept offers for products, equipment, services, and skilled teams. I want to make requests of businesses making submissions:

- Please coordinate your company's offers – we are seeing duplicates in the system that have been submitted by different people
- Please also consolidate all offers of assistance into one entry; a single entry can accept products, equipment, services, and skilled teams so there is no need for multiple entries from the same business
- These two things have created a backlog for our staff who are working diligently to deconflict duplications and respond to all offers
- Please give us 5-7 more days to work through this backlog for a response; we have a team of 12 that are now responding
- The FDA issued Best Practices for Retail Food Stores, Restaurants, and Food Pick-Up/Delivery Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic. This guidance is posted on the FDA website and a link will be placed on our PS website.
- TSA issued a Temporary TWIC Card Expiration Exemption on April 10. With this notice, TSA is granting a temporary exemption from requirements in 49 CFR part 1572 regarding the expiration of certain Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC®). For TWICs expiring between March 1, 2020, and July 31, 2020, the exemption extends the validity of a TWIC for 180 days for an individual whose TWIC would otherwise expire during the effective period of the exemption, which remains in effect through July 31, 2020.

### Questions

- Mr. Fry: Can the areas for events be used as a treatment area while permanent facilities are being built? A: There is a group working on alternate care sites and there is a potential that this could happen
- Amy: Is there a way to update a submission that has been made, or do we need to resubmit the information again? A: do not resubmit the information, send an email to the Private Sector, with the title UPDATE EXISTING OFFER, to grab our attention
- Brent: What can be done to reopen the economic structure? A: we are trying to reopen the economy and working to get the PPE to try and help with the process

### Reminders – this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

- **NEW! Private Sector Website:** <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- Private Sector Survey for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
- For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)
- For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
- For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>



**VIRGINIA'S  
HEALTH  
IS IN YOUR  
HANDS.**  
Do your part,  
stop the spread.

## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



### Call frequency – weekly

- Next Call Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Adjourned @ 1346

### Introduction:

Called to order by Stacie Neal @1233

### Intent of Call:

- The intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA.
- Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line. While we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we are documenting all questions and will make every effort to provide responses to you through the Private Sector Portal or updates on our website.

### Updates:

- Mar 23: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Mar 30: [EO-55 Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- On April 2, [President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration for Virginia](#) opening up additional resources for Virginia in this fight against COVID-19
- On April 6, the Governor adopted CDC recommendations encouraging all Virginians to wear a cloth face mask whenever out in public.
- April 13 [EO 56 ordering that the primary elections scheduled for June 9, 2020, be held on June 23, 2020.](#)
- Executive Order 57 was issued on April 17 with the intent of increasing the healthcare workforce by allowing out of state licensed healthcare practitioners to practice in Virginia hospitals, to allow out-of-state licensed clinical psychologists and counselors to practice in Virginia, and to allow interns, residents, and fellows with active temporary licenses to practice medicine in a hospital, this includes respiratory care program students.
- April 16 letter to Virginia's Congressional Delegation that to request additional programs and funding to combat the public health emergency, address the economic fallout, and prepare for economic recovery.
- The Governor is holding Press Conferences on M, W, F at 2PM
- Confirmed cases: 9630
  - Hospitalizations: 1581
  - Fatalities: 324
  - Local Declarations are 135/138

Adjourned: 1329

- EOCs open are 55

### **Agency Reports:**

#### **Department of Health: Dr. Julie Murphy**

VDH and the Department of Health Professions is working with morticians and funeral directors to protect them while working with COVID-19 bodies. A webinar is being scheduled in the near future to answer questions and learn about any issues they are encountering to determine mitigation actions to reduce exposure.

VDH has been working with the Poultry Federation and other poultry businesses on mitigation actions given recent illnesses in their workforce; VDH and VDACS will continue to monitor the impact to the industry.

The Commonwealth is looking at the next phase of reopening the economy, using data to inform the process. The health department is participating with the Governor's Office of Commerce and Trade on a conference call to engage private industry about their ideas and recommendations for reopening. This conversation will help to identify areas of concern as well. The Office of Environmental Health Services has also been communicating with the Virginia Restaurant, Travel, and Lodging Association in a forum to hear their thoughts about reopening.

#### **Department of Agriculture: Bill Scruggs**

USDA announced their coronavirus food assistance program last Friday. This includes \$19M to assist farmers and ranchers in maintaining integrity of the food supply chain; \$16M to directly assist farmers and ranchers for losses; \$100M fruits and vegetables; \$100M to dairy; \$100M to meat products; and \$3M to packaging of food products for food banks. VDACS food distribution is working with the USDA and food banks to make food available where supply is low and demand is high.

Meat and poultry processing in Virginia – so far not impacted like other states; all plants are running but may not be as efficient due to social distancing and enhanced sanitation; many are requesting assistance from the state for health and safety, and PPE. They have specifically requested rapid testing ability.

Specific produce in Virginia: green beans, squash, and cabbage and tomatoes on upswing in pricing; potatoes are overstocked due to massive decrease in French fry industry.

A reminder to stay away from farms because most are shutdown to the public in order to protect the farm products and workers. Many farmers markets are setting up delivery and pickup.

### **VA Fusion Center: Andrew Dunnick**

An intel product was issued about a thwarted vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) attack on a hospital in the NE United States. ISIS is exploiting COVID-19 to encourage attacks on health systems and the power grid though no credible threats have been identified in Virginia.

The FBI issued a private sector liaison report warning about fraudulent 3M PPE that are not made by 3M and are not approved by NIOSH. Please be careful and ensure that products you are considering for procurement meet all the necessary FDA, OSHA, and NIOSH regulations.

Cyber threats continue to increase amidst COVID-19. Phishing scams using email with hyperlinks can include malware that is copied to a computer when selected. The Virginia Fusion Center is finalizing a product that summarizes these threats, providing indicators and mitigation actions.

If you have any questions you can contact [vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov)

### **VDEM: Stacie Neal**

We are still at full activation and still largely virtual. We are operating 24/7. Acquisition of PPE for our first responders, healthcare workers, and other essential government agencies is the highest priority. VDEM are planning for medical surge capabilities, in conjunction with the governors long term care task force; Dr. Forlano is leading. We are working with state and local facilities to make sure we have the proper medical surge capacity for jails and state prisons should the need arise.

### **Private Sector**

- There is now a private sector website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- Setup as a landing page for the private sector to access business related information regarding Virginia's response to COVID-19.
- Password provided once you are registered on the Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>.
- You are able to access previous call summaries, and the number and pin for our weekly calls on the website.



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 22, 2020 @1230

- Governors testing work group led by Dr. Karen Remley is working to enhance testing in the State.
- The economic crisis workforce is establishing a private sector workgroup to vet recommendations and receive information, with the intention of putting out guidelines before the reopening date of May 8. If organizations have specific guidance or recommendations, please send to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov).
- There is a survey that businesses can use to give offers of help ([virginia.gov/covid19supplies](http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies));
  - Please only have one person submit the entry to streamline the process
  - Please also consolidate the offers into one entry

### Questions:

**Matt:** have there been any more discussions about having blood testing for antibodies, as a return to work? A: There have been a few tests approved for emergency testing, but we still need more information on what the test results actually tell us and need to be able to provide guidance to the private sector on how to interpret those results.

**Scott:** is there a particular point of contact that we should reach out to, to give PPE? A: If you have reached out, but have not had any follow up, please email the private sector email, with the tag “Attention Stacie”

**Hobey:** Is testing being ramped up? A: yes, the governor is ramping up testing in an effort to begin opening the economy

**Scott:** is there a preference on what type of testing kit? A: Fill out the survey and submit the type of test kits that you are offering, and the information will be reviewed. Please include the type and model of test kit, whether or not it is FDA or FDA EUA approved, and specifications sheet

**Reminders** -- this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

- NEW! Private Sector Website: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- Private Sector Survey for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
- For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 22, 2020 @1230



- For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
- For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

### Call frequency -- weekly

- Next call Wednesday, April 29, 2020

### **Private Sector Conference Call Agenda**

For those who have not participated previously, the intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions that Virginia is taking to mitigate, respond to, and now recover from COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update (policy and procedure standpoint), followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA representative in Virginia. Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line where you will have an opportunity to ask questions the; all speakers will stay on the line. As always, while we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we always provide responses to you individually whether that be through emails, the Private Sector Portal, updates on our website, or this weekly meeting call.

The purpose of these calls is not meant for solicitation or procurement offers; those need to be directed to the Private Sector email at: [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

Nor is this call is for media; if you are media, please hang up and contact the JIC at [COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:COVID19JIC@vdem.virginia.gov)

This call is intended to get actionable information from state government into hands of businesses and industries in Virginia both for situational awareness and decision-making purposes, and it becomes even more important now that we have moved into Phase One of re-opening, as businesses look to resume their operations & also take into account health and safety of your employees, and customers.

### **VDEM Situational Update**

As of today, the **number of confirmed COVID19 cases in Virginia is 40,249**, current total of **hospitalizations as of today is 1,459**, the total **cumulative hospitalizations reported is 4,385**; there have been **1,281 fatalities**.

To recap on where we are with the Executive Orders (EO) and the Forward VA process: On Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> the Governor extended key provisions of Executive Order 53: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) through last Thursday May 14, at 12 midnight.

As the economy re-opens, the detailed health metrics that we continue to monitor are:

- **Positive cases in a downward trend for 14 days**

- **Hospital capacity remaining steady for 14 days**
- **Increased capacity for testing**
- **Necessary PPE supplies readily available to continue providing care in hospitals and health care facilities**

There is an online slide show regarding these metrics on the Governor's website, as well a link to it on the VA Private Sector page. Additionally, these new graphics are available daily on VDH's website and are downloadable.

On May 9, the Governor signed [EO 61 Phase One- Easing Of Certain Temporary Restrictions Due To Novel Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\).pdf](#), presenting a detailed framework for the first phase of Forward Virginia, which began last Friday. Phase One is a gradual ease of public health restrictions while we continue to try and contain the spread of COVID-19. The Phase One guideline implementation began on Friday May, 15 in most of Virginia where public health criteria that was already outlined by the Commonwealth, was currently being met.

The Exceptions are as follows (these localities will begin Phase One on Thursday May, 28):

- **Accomack County**
- **City of Richmond**
- **NOVA counties & cities**

On May, 25 NOVA counties alerted the Governor that they are now in a posture to re-open based on health metrics and will commence Phase One at the start of Friday May,29. Accomack county has also made a similar notification of their intent to also begin Phase One on Friday May, 29.

The City of Richmond made a request to delay Phase One, which has been denied by the Governor's Office. Discussions between the Governor's office & the City of Richmond are ongoing at this time. The Governor has made it clear that the Commonwealth's guidance is a 'floor' not a 'ceiling', meaning businesses that are not prepared to open do not have to do so. More to come.

As a reminder, the Governor's Phased approach is based on Science & Data and includes mitigation strategies to slow the spread of the COVID19 virus through enhanced safety practices. The plan allows localities to consider delaying implementation of Phase One based local health conditions. The guidance for all business sectors can be found on the Commonwealth's COVID19 webpage, and links are also on the private sector webpage.

Business sectors with specific guidance include the following:

- **Restaurants & Beverage Services**
- **Farmer Markets**
- **Brick & Mortar Retail**

- **Personal Care & Grooming Services**
- **Fitness & Exercise Facilities**
- **Campgrounds & Summer Camps**
- **Religious Services**

On Monday, May 11 the Governor announced a pilot program with the City of Richmond to support the Commonwealth's ongoing focus on health equity. The partnership aims to increase equitable access to PPE in underserved communities that may be the most adversely impacted by the virus. Virginia's Health Equity Leadership Taskforce is working to leverage data to prioritize areas experiencing disproportionate impacts and is partnering with those localities to establish policies & programs to address these critical issues. We are also working with other localities to implement similar programs and community events throughout the Commonwealth. This includes Harrisonburg, Petersburg, Prince William and Emporia.

Just a quick review on the Blueprint for Forward Virginia and the Phase One Restrictions that are in place now: this is a move away from '**stay at home**' to '**safer at home**' guidelines.

Additionally, Phase One also includes:

- **Ban on Social Gatherings of more than 10 People**
- **Continue Social Distancing**
- **Teleworking, where possible**
- **Face Coverings for People in public**
- **Easing *some* restrictions on Businesses & Faith-based Communities**

Phase One is still expected to last somewhere between 2-4 weeks. Phase Two metrics are currently being discussed, but there is not a set date to move into Phase Two at this time. The Governor will make those announcements when we are ready to do so.

It is important to note that anticipated Phase Two restrictions will include:

- **Stay At Home for vulnerable populations**
- **Ban on Social Gatherings of 50 People OR more**
- **Continue Social Distancing**
- **Teleworking, where possible**
- **Face Coverings for People in public**
- **Additional Easing on limitations for Businesses**

Phase Two is anticipated to last 2-4 weeks, or more, determined by health metrics. Phase Three is our long term plan, and those restrictions and recommendations have yet to be determined.

During the Governor's Press Conference, yesterday May, 26, he announced EO 63: [Requirement-To-Wear-Face-Covering-While-Inside-Buildings](#). So while Phase One initially made recommendations for face-coverings, there is now a **requirement** for face-coverings when you are in public, inside buildings. Measures undertaken over the last 10 weeks has slowed the

spread of the virus; however, transmission continues to threaten our communities. We must remain vigilant as we reopen Virginia. It is critical that we become even more vigilant.

Requirements to wear face masks include:

- **Everyone Age 10 or older** (*please note: the Governor does recommend face-coverings for children as young as 3, if at all possible, but is not a requirement*)
- **Inside any brick & mortar retail establishments**
- **Inside all personal care & grooming establishments**
- **Inside places where people congregate**
- **Inside Food & Beverage establishments** (*except when eating and/or drinking*)
- **On public transportation, to include Train Stations & Bus Stations**
- **Inside Government Buildings when accessing state or local services**

The Virginia Department of Health will have the authority to enforce this order. Any willful violation or refusal, failure or neglect to comply with this Order is a Class One Misdemeanor. The State Health Commissioner may also seek injunction relief in Circuit Court for violation of this order. No minor shall be subject to criminal penalties for failure to wear a face mask. Nothing in this order shall require the use of a face covering by any individual for whom doing so would be contrary to his/her health/safety because of a medical condition.

Exceptions to wear face masks include:

- **Eating and/or Drinking at a restaurant**
- **Exercising, or using exercise equipment**
- **Individuals who have trouble breathing and/or are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face mask without assistance**
- **Communicating with Hearing-Impaired community where the mouth needs to be visible**
- **Temporary face mask removal when necessary to secure Government and/or Medical Services**
- **Individuals with Health Conditions that prohibit wearing a face covering**

Also, during the Governor's Press conference yesterday, it was announced that the Department of Labor & Industry will be drafting new regulations to help keep workers safe while at work. The new regulations will apply to all employers, employees, and places of employment in an effort to control, prevent, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These regulations will include the **use of PPE, sanitation, record keeping, and access to information**. Once developed, the new regulations will need to be approved by the Virginia Safety & Health Code Board. There will be more to come on this as the day's progress.

The Governor is still holding press conferences, but as of yesterday they are now taking place on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 2pm EST.

## **Agency Reports**

### **Virginia Department of Health:**

Updates have been made to the website, there is now a business specific page that is continually updated with materials and resources (i.e.: signage toolkit); these materials are available in both English and Spanish.

Seafood Industry Guidance has been developed based on the Poultry Industry guidance, which was previously developed. This is also posted on the website.

The Governor's COVID website now has FAQ's for Phase One posted online, and there is a link to that as well on the VDH website.

With regard to testing front-line workers and if they were to be included in the goal-number of 10K tests per day metrics, currently it is not a state program to test essential workers; however there are times that front-line worker tests have been included in some of the testing sites. VDH is increasing community testing events in general throughout the Commonwealth. As testing supplies and capacity increases throughout the Commonwealth VDH is looking at ways to expand testing to various sectors of the public.

### **Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services:**

The market news office has reported sales of the livestock auction markets, which continues to be held according to the schedule throughout the Commonwealth.

For the week ending last week prices were varied, up as much as down \$4.00 earlier in the week, then up by \$4.00 at the end of the week.

Cattle prices have stabilized, for the most part. Over the course of the past few weeks, the headcounts show comparable figures from previous years, despite being very low in mid-April.

Grain prices are mostly steady and some are actually trending upward. Corn and Soybean prices were steady; wheat was up by 3%. However, all of these numbers remain lower than they were late-February; wheat prices are 1% lower, soybean 6% lower, and corn 11% lower.

National Beef & Pork slaughter capacity continues to improve, though it is still down significantly as a result of processing plants being closed, plants operating at reduced capacity, and less efficiency.

As of May, 21 cattle slaughter is down 17% nationally compared to numbers from this same period last year; three weeks ago, however, cattle slaughter was down 37% nationally. So it is improving, but it is taking a little time with implementing safeguards, which causes stress on efficiency and strain on the system. Main concern of food processors at this time is worker safety, along with tendency of employees beginning to not properly following social distancing as things re-open, etc.



As for produce, sales are steady with fairly good demand and prices in the retail grocery markets are good. Farmer markets are just now starting to come online with local produce. There are some reports of lower numbers of customers at farmers markets (*this could be related to both weather conditions as well as the safety precautions individuals are taking in this time of re-opening with COVID still a threat*).

The seafood industry, especially shellfish, was particularly hard hit from this pandemic largely due to the loss of Restaurant Food Service Trade; they are starting to pick up again due to work with major grocery retailers.

Last week we had several conversations with VA and USDA meat & poultry inspection group, looking primarily at opportunities for increasing capacity, given they have a full slate for processing orders but have no additional capacity, so we are aware of this challenge and are looking for ways to improve this situation.

Export markets, especially in terms of grain, have continued to be steady. Last week over \$10M worth of wholesale soybean-meal went to Morocco. Also containers of Yellow Soybean, Soybean-meal, Soybean pulp pellets, and Yellow Corn went out to 11 countries, at a total of \$15.6M.

#### **VA Fusion Center**

The fusion center is already preparing for the upcoming elections in June, working closely with localities, the Commonwealth, and Federal partners.

Continuing to analyze data from this pandemic and how the restrictions have affected criminal activity throughout Virginia, as well as overdoses.

DHS recently released a document regarding vulnerabilities exploited by Ransom Wear. It looked at a two year period (January 2018- January 2020, so pre-pandemic) but what is significant is that some items studied are the same things we are seeing exploited in this pandemic environment, i.e.: **Remote Desktop Protocol**, which allows your system to be taken over remotely, and while it has legitimate benefits, it can be exploited if not protected. Another commonality is **server message blocks**, by which certain protocols can remotely access files and there is a variety of Ransom Ware attacks that allow for criminals to be opportunistic. What is different is the attacks are being tailored to exploit COVID-19, with click bait ranging from PPE tag lines to false sites to sign up for swimming exercise time slots as pools begin to re-open.

New initiative: VFC Shield program. The original Shield program was conceived by the NYPD post 9/11 driven by the need to loop in private security firms regarding matters of counterterrorism. This established good relationships and regular communications between NYPD and the Private Security firms regarding counterterrorism. In short, it is a force multiplier.



Virginia's Shield program is not limited to Private Sector Security Personnel; rather, VFC Shield is targeting a variety of important groups (i.e.: Critical Infrastructure, Faith Based Communities, Public Health Care, etc) with a focus on two-way unclassified information sharing. Anyone is able to sign up, which gives access to real-time alerts from VFC Shield (i.e.: active shooter and an open source summary of what is know at that time), weekly/monthly newsletters, and allows for sector specific information to be sent to PSAPS and Emergency responders. You can sign up by visiting: [www.VSP.Virginia.Gov/FusionCenter/](http://www.VSP.Virginia.Gov/FusionCenter/) and there is also more information on the program on this webpage.

#### **DHS/CISA**

Nothing significant to report

#### **VDEM**

Virginia still has 136 localities under local emergency declarations. 58 Emergency operation centers are still open to some degree.

VDEM has moved to ORANGE/Partial Activation, which means that weekends are on-call not on-duty, allowing for rest before Hurricane Season officially starts June 1. The Watch remains on a 24/7 schedule.

VEST continues to coordinate efforts to expand the number of testing opportunities across the Commonwealth, in coordination with the Health Equity Group and the VA Dept of Health. We are using the National Guard to increase our testing capacity for congregate housing, (i.e.: Long term care facilities, jails & prisons), as well as meat processing plants; and, finally, the community at large testing in conjunction with locality officials is also ongoing. The Virginia Department of Health's website has a map showing testing facilities and locations throughout the Commonwealth.

We enter Hurricane Season officially on June, 1 (next week). There have already been two named Tropical Systems, Arthur and Bertha, so an active hurricane season is anticipated. VDEM is preparing, and preparing for a COVID-19 public health emergency environment. This includes a decreased capacity for sheltering due to the need for social distancing, so non-congregate sheltering is being explored. Additionally, enhanced sanitation, and mass-feeding operations. Working closely with all state agencies that are part of the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST), to include the Department of Health, State Police, Social Services, and many other state agencies that play a role in Hurricane Response activities. We are coordinating with localities as well to ensure they have what they need and their contingency plans are being developed along the same lines as the Commonwealth.

We have also developed an Incident Support Plan (aka, Incident Action Plan) that will allow us to run simultaneous events at the same time, i.e.: COVID-19 response, as well as a Hurricane. FEMA and VDEM are also preparing for a state coordinators TTX on June, 3 to walk through Hurricane pre-planning.

#### **VDEM Private Sector:**

Working with FEMA on cloth face-mask distribution. If you have not received any, and you would like them, some of the next allocation will be dedicated for Small Businesses and Essential Frontline workers as we look to re-open. Please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) to arrange coordination.

In addition to the cloth face masks being supplied by FEMA, there are also PPE & additional equipment FEMA will be supplying the Commonwealth. At this time the quantity and exact items are TBD, but as it arrives we will relay that information to the Private Sector as the intent in giving states this additional equipment is to help with the re-opening of Businesses & Industry.

In terms of PPE sourcing options, any contract with the Commonwealth of VA is a public document and those contracts that have been issued in conjunction with COVID-19 are listed online. If you are having difficulty, and you have needs, please be aware of the following three resources (all of which can also be accessed thru the link that is listed in the daily VDEM PS email for the dashboard):

1. [Virginia Department of General Services](#)
2. [Virginia Manufacturing Association](#)
3. [ProjectN95.org](#)

With regard to the PS Survey, if you have offers of assistance and you have submitted to the survey, or you are thinking about doing so, here are some reminders:

- The survey is where Business & Industry can submit any offers of assistance (donations and/or procurement) at [www.Virginia.gov/COVID19supplies](http://www.Virginia.gov/COVID19supplies) relative to critical supplies for hospitals and Health Care workers, first responders, and emergency responders in general.
- The Survey is not limited to PPE; it can be services, equipment, skilled teams, etc.
- Please coordinate within your company if you are making a submission, as your company can use one submission for any type of offer; this also avoids duplicative submissions which slows down tracking and follow up for everyone, because of time spent having to de-conflict multiple submissions from the same company.

- If you are a vendor that wants to submit your testing products for consideration, please fill out the new survey and answer the additional questions. Select “COVID19 testing kit” as ‘BUSINESS TYPE’, which will drive you to the questions we need answers to.
- If you have received a follow up email from VDEM PS in response to your submission, especially as it relates to PPE, and you have test kits to offer, we will be going back through our database to pull such vendors and send an additional follow-up email. You do NOT need to submit a SECOND survey, if you already have submitted one.
- If test kits are a NEW capability you have, please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov) and include “TEST KITS” in the subject line, and we will ADD it to your EXSISTING survey.
- Please read through our reply closely to ensure you reply with all the requisite information. This is necessary for you to move forward in the process; if you have not replied with all of the additional information that was requested after 3 attempts to reach you, your offer will be placed on hold, and you will need to reach out at that point. So, check your spam folder if you are waiting for a response from VDEM PS. Turn around time for all offers of assistance is between 48-72 hours (business days), with the exception of any submission made on a Friday afternoon or over the weekend (as these requests are being reviewed Monday-Friday only).
- Recently there have been some changes to the Survey as testing becomes a top priority. Working with Division of Consolidated Lab Services to incorporate additional questions on the Survey relative to testing.

In closing, please remember the frequency of our PS distribution emails has decreased; emails are no longer going on a daily basis, but rather will now go out only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Tuesday, Thursday and weekends will have exceptions if there is a major Press Release from the Governor’s office, or an Executive Order, etc.

## Q&A

Q: Are there any processes or programs to start manufacturing PPE and sanitizer in the Commonwealth? We are a company in New Jersey and can be reached at (782) 361-1386; we want to bring 10K jobs to Virginia.

A: Please email [Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:Private.Sector@vdem.virginia.gov)

Q: CDC guidance does not provide much detail on assistance to the Business community with regard to tracing if you have an active infection. Additionally, manufacturers and breweries



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes May 27, 2020 @1230EST



keep asking questions as they re-open or start to get ready to re-open about 'what it is that they don't know, they don't know', meaning if we have tracing obligations from an infection and follow CDC guidance, what are the further obligations from a HIPPA and ADA point of view, what are the legal liabilities, etc. We need better guidance on how we can protect ourselves, as well as our employees, as it pertains to the tracing responsibilities.

A: VA Department of Health and VDEM spoke this morning, and with feedback from the Private Sector we will be able to develop guidance. In the interim, the community mitigation working group will also look into this as they are the ones developing policy, in conjunction with the Governor's office. We will readdress this on the call next week once more information is available.

*Next call: June 3 , 2020 12:30PM EST*

*###*



## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



### Introduction:

Called to order by Stacie Neal at 1235

### Intent of Call:

- The intent of this call is to provide our private sector partners with an update of actions Virginia is taking to mitigate and respond to the impacts of COVID-19 in Virginia. The flow of our agenda will include a situation update, followed by State Agency briefs, and a brief from DHS CISA.
- Finally, we will open the lines for questions so please hold those questions until the end and the operator will open the line. While we may not have answers for every question on the phone today, we are documenting all questions and will make every effort to provide responses to you through the Private Sector Portal or updates on our website.
- If you are on this call, then you know that the time has changed to 12:30PM; Number and PIN will remain the same

### Updates

- Executive orders and actions taken.
  - Mar 12: [EO-51 Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 13: [Virginia COVID-19 EM-3448 Declared \(Incident Period Jan 20,2020-ongoing\)](#)
  - Mar 20: [EO-52 Increases in Hospital Bed Capacity in Response to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 20: [Order of Public Emergency One - Amended Order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner Declaration of Public Health Emergency](#)
  - Mar 23: [EO-53 Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - Mar 25: [Order of Public Emergency Two - Order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner Declaration of Public Health Emergency](#)
  - Mar 28: [EO-54 Delegation of Authority to the Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission to Request Title XII Advances to Support Virginia Worker](#)
  - Mar 30: [EO-55 Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - On April 2, [President Trump signed the Federal Disaster Declaration for Virginia](#) opening up additional resources for Virginia in this fight against COVID-19
  - On April 6, the Governor adopted CDC recommendations encouraging all Virginians to wear a cloth face mask whenever out in public.



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- April 13 [EO 56 ordering that the primary elections scheduled for June 9, 2020, be held on June 23, 2020.](#)
- Press Conference today at 2PM will focus on extension of EO53 beyond April 23 and on recommendations for businesses that remain open to the public – how they can better enforce social distancing
- Confirmed cases
  - 6500 total cases in VA
  - 1048 hospitalizations
  - 195 fatalities
  - Local Declarations – 135
  - EOCs opened – 55
- Continue to amplify the messaging to OPEN businesses that they must keep everyone 6 FEET APART, and follow the best practices for enhanced sanitization
- Governor's Press conferences will be held M-W-F at 2 pm

### Agency Reports

#### **Department of Health - Dr. Julie Murphy**

Hygiene practices are continuing to be updated and they have been put on the website, and the website is being updated to ensure it is kept up to date and organized. If you access the VDH site, you will find the update on cloth masks from the CDC, including how to care for the masks.

There are two types of test for COVID-19: one to indicate you have the virus (PCR) and a second to indicate you had the virus in the past (serology). The polymer chain reaction (PCR) test detects the genetic information of the virus, or RNA, in a person. The serology test is a blood test that determines whether antibodies are present in a person. Antibodies are generated after a week or two after the virus has cleared a person's system. There is currently only one serology test approved for use in Testing and Research labs in the U.S. However, the quality and accuracy of these tests is still not ready for general use in the community. VDH State Epidemiologist is monitoring the progress of trial testing of these serology tests. A working group is developing a plan to advise Unified Command on use of these tests when they become available in Virginia.

#### **Department of Agriculture - Bill Scruggs**

Smithfield Ham has closed a plant in South Dakota due to a large outbreak of the virus. The east coast should not be impacted due to this closure. The poultry plants across the country have been closed for cleaning and filtering of sick birds. There have been cattle auctions postponed, but there is hope that they will begin again soon. The produce industry has had some dumping issues, with products that would not be used in the restaurants or stores. There are some issues with getting products to the stores. Raw milk is being dumped due to the health standards, and should not be put anywhere. The food banks are still serving the community and working to reach out to more.



Other items of interest include:

- VDACS held call with farm bureau federation, poultry federation, corn, soybean, and grain associations yesterday.
- Winchester and Abingdon closed – scheduled to come back online shortly
- Grain industry planting to continue as scheduled
- Watching ports since fertilizer comes in through Ports for this industry
- Produce dumping – farmers in So. FL dumping produce; most of it was dumping of seconds (normally doesn't make it to grocery stores); much of this dumping would occur at this time of year in the far South; no first line products dumped
- Retail side – distribution centers are full (food and produce) – having problems with manpower getting food to stores
- Milk dumping – farmers taking raw milk and dumping because availability of processing not available; raw milk is unpasteurized so not fit for sale – could create a larger problem if put into the market; this type of flushing occurs normally this time of year – media just bringing attention to it
- Migrant farm worker program in state to help with harvesting crops – farmers working with organizations have put in a lot of safety precautions – restricting access to farms from public
- Farmers Markets – place order ahead of time so that customer just has to pick up; do not have to limit patrons of 10 at a time but must adhere to social distancing (no congregating) and no touching of produce
- Disaster household feeding program has begun – last week served 700 families in Fredericksburg; 200 elsewhere

### **VA Fusion Center - Andrew Dunnick**

An issue with communications infrastructure happening in Europe but has not been seen here in the U.S. In Europe, 5G conspiracy theories that essentially suggest 5G caused COVID-19 are circulating which is prompting individuals to damage communications towers. To date, this has not been seen in the U.S.

Zoom (video conferencing software) account information has been stolen and put on the dark web. The VA COVID Task Force was stood up and issued a joint statement with the IRS regarding the economic impact packages. There have been many emails sent out about PPE and people selling or offering PPE for higher rates.

Film your hospital movement – conspiracy theory that virus not a big deal; portray empty parking lots and no lines to bolster their claim

Cyber updates – VFC highlights on indicators of fraud in COVID-19 emails; trends in sale of medical goods or PPE; even medical doctor in VA name was erroneously used as referral; be skeptical of these types of emails. The VFC is developing an intel product that can be shared.



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### VDEM - Stacie Neal

Still at full activation (Red); some essential personnel are at the EOC but most are working virtually. Logistics and Private Sector have had a huge roll in coordinating with the private sector. We are working through donations and procurement for needed items (list PPE).

### DHS CISA - Rob Mooney

We are here to give guidance and support. We have provided guidance documents about what needs to be done. If the guidance does not have the state seal, then it is not from us.

CISA and CDC interim guidance for guidance for critical infrastructure employers. This information includes flyers for the workplace and Interim Guidance for Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19. The documents were sent out in last night's private sector daily email and links will be posted on Virginia's Private Sector website.

### Private Sector Update

- New website released today: <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- Setup as a landing page for the private sector to access business related information regarding Virginia's response to COVID-19.
- Password provided once you are registered on the Private Sector Portal. Currently, there are 1065 businesses registered
- During the Governor's Press Conference today at 2PM, we expect him to extend EO53 closures and provide us with a date for that extension; he will also provide recommendations for businesses that remain open – how to improve social distancing and screen patrons; If you have questions about his comments following the press conference, please send them to [constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:constituent.services@governor.virginia.gov) I will send out any press releases that result via the daily email distro
- The Governor announced results of the UVA and the RAND Corporation modeling on Monday. Two primary messages: social distancing is working and lifting the restrictions too soon could lead to a second wave.
- Governor Ralph Northam today announced additional details of a statewide effort in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health's Virginia Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to recruit medical and non-medical volunteers in the fight against COVID-19. It is estimated up to 30,000 volunteers are needed to provide support for the expected surge in hospitals and long-term care facilities throughout the Commonwealth. For more information or to sign up, visit <https://vamrc.org>
- I want to reiterate the purpose of the Private Sector Survey, <http://Virginia.gov/covid19supplies>; this is a survey where businesses and industry can submit their offers of assistance to the State relative to critical supplies for our hospital and healthcare workers, first responders, and emergency response. The survey will accept offers for products, equipment, services, and skilled teams. I want to make requests of businesses making submissions:

- Please coordinate your company's offers – we are seeing duplicates in the system that have been submitted by different people
- Please also consolidate all offers of assistance into one entry; a single entry can accept products, equipment, services, and skilled teams so there is no need for multiple entries from the same business
- These two things have created a backlog for our staff who are working diligently to deconflict duplications and respond to all offers
- Please give us 5-7 more days to work through this backlog for a response; we have a team of 12 that are now responding
- The FDA issued Best Practices for Retail Food Stores, Restaurants, and Food Pick-Up/Delivery Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic. This guidance is posted on the FDA website and a link will be placed on our PS website.
- TSA issued a Temporary TWIC Card Expiration Exemption on April 10. With this notice, TSA is granting a temporary exemption from requirements in 49 CFR part 1572 regarding the expiration of certain Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC®). For TWICs expiring between March 1, 2020, and July 31, 2020, the exemption extends the validity of a TWIC for 180 days for an individual whose TWIC would otherwise expire during the effective period of the exemption, which remains in effect through July 31, 2020.

### Questions

- Mr. Fry: Can the areas for events be used as a treatment area while permanent facilities are being built? A: There is a group working on alternate care sites and there is a potential that this could happen
- Amy: Is there a way to update a submission that has been made, or do we need to resubmit the information again? A: do not resubmit the information, send an email to the Private Sector, with the title UPDATE EXISTING OFFER, to grab our attention
- Brent: What can be done to reopen the economic structure? A: we are trying to reopen the economy and working to get the PPE to try and help with the process

### Reminders – this information is included in all messaging sent from the Private Sector Portal

- **NEW! Private Sector Website:** <https://vdem-private.virginiainteractive.org/private-sector/>
- To receive regular updates from Virginia, please register for the Virginia Private Sector Portal at <https://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>
- Private Sector Survey for issues, unmet needs, and offers at <http://virginia.gov/covid19supplies>
- For questions that cannot be addressed through the Survey or issues accessing the Portal or Survey, please email [private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:private.sector@vdem.virginia.gov)
- For questions about essential services, please direct your inquiry to [commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:commerce.trade@governor.virginia.gov)
- For updates and guidance on COVID-19, please visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- For non-clinical information, waivers, and situational updates, please visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>



**VIRGINIA'S  
HEALTH  
IS IN YOUR  
HANDS.**  
Do your part,  
stop the spread.

## VDEM Private Sector Conference Call Notes – April 8, 2020 @1300



### Call frequency – weekly

- Next Call Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Adjourned @ 1346